

On rainy days, if I look at the chanced shapes in a puddle of muddy water dazedly, those shapes will appear to look like the seas and the shores of rivers from satellite pictures. Because a model at "star level" is at my feet, for one instant, the height of my vision is that of a satellite orbit.

Ashinano Hitoshi



アフタヌーンKC
1147

ヨコハマ買い出し紀行 10

芦奈野ひとし

講談社

芦奈野ひとし

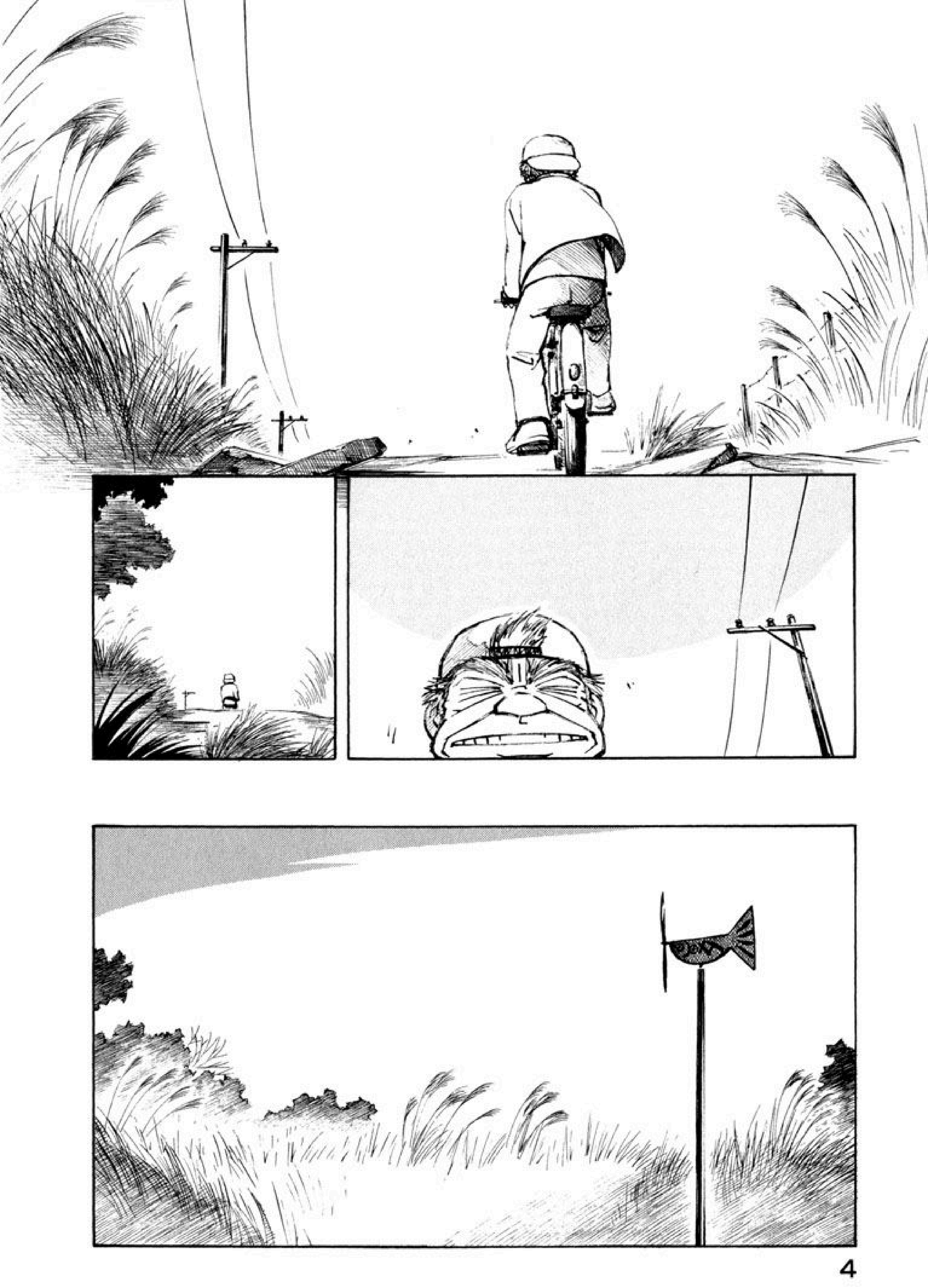
ヨコハマ買い出し紀行



café Alpha

Story 89 Before Winter






SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SHIFT
SHIFT


......
OPEN
......
HEEEY...
YO! ALPHA! ... YA THERE?


AH, HA HA, HA... H-HELLO.
SORRY ABOUT THE MESS.
... OVER HERE!
WHAT ARE YA UP TO?
UMM...WELL, THE WIND WAS GETTING A BIT CHILLY.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD REALLY BE NICE TO HAVE SOME WALLS AGAIN...
I'M STILL PLUGGING UP THE CRACKS.
AHH... HUH.



SFX: <CONSPICUOUSLY>


C-
COME ON IN ...
YO.
KARO
......
CHA
...YER BLEEDIN'.
AH!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
MM.


HMM...
SO WHAT'S THE CON-CEPT FER THE SHOP?
A SHIPWRECK?
HA HA HA
NO, UM...

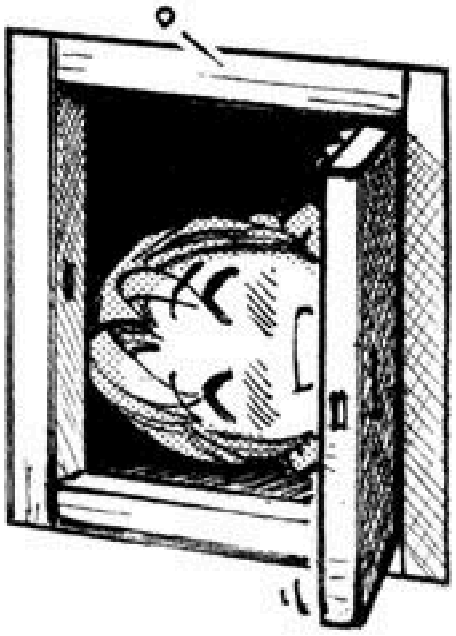

THERE WASN'T ENOUGH WOOD LEFT OVER FROM BEFORE...
I FOUND SOME MORE BITS AND PIECES, BUT NONE OF IT REALLY FIT TOGETHER VERY WELL...
IT ISN'T FINISHED YET!
I DIDN'T SAY THERE WAS ANY-THIN' WRONG WITH IT. NOT AT ALL.
ACTUALLY, I KINDA LIKE IT.
YA CAN TAKE YER TIME WITH IT.
I'LL SEE IF I CAN FIND SOME LUMBER FER YA.
THANK YOU!


... WELL,
LET ME GET YOU A REFILL IN RE- TURN.
IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT...
MM...
......


YA DID A PRETTY NICE JOB ON THE FLOOR.
YES. I WANTED TO AT LEAST FINISH THAT FIRST.
....

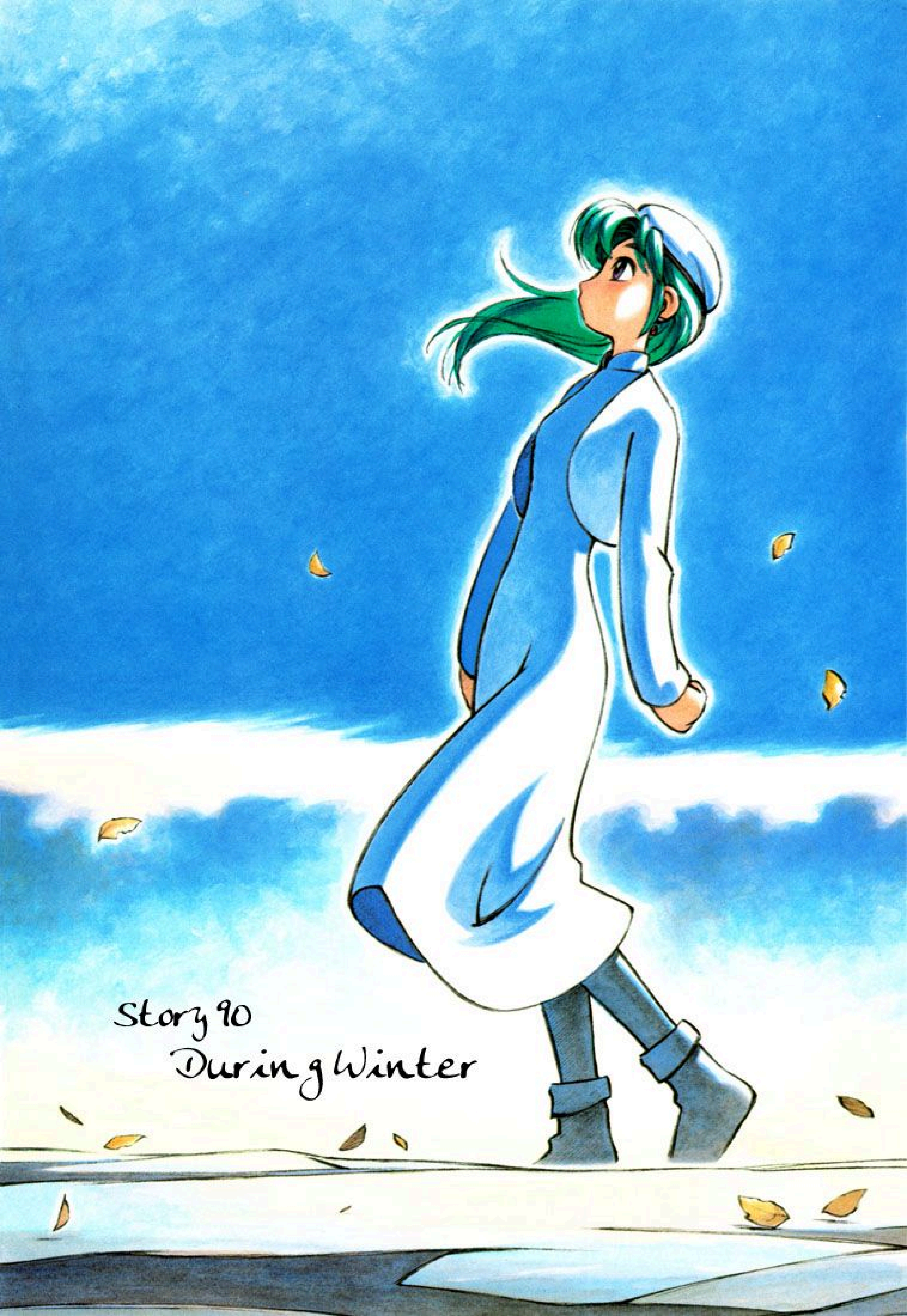


Story 89 - End








Story 90
During Winter


OHHH


....
I PROMISED ALPHA THAT I'D MEET HER TODAY NEAR THE SHRINE IN DAINO-HARA.
"THERE'S SOMETHING I REALL WANT TO SHOW YOU."
"PLEASE COME, OKAY?"
"I'LL BE WAIT-ING."
SOME-THING SHE WANTS TO SHOW ME...


......
NO WAY, ALPHA'S NOT LIKE THAT...
....
......
....
BUT WHY A LONELY PLACE LIKE THIS?
THE GUYS AT WORK KEEP TELLING ME WEIRD STUFF.
NOW I'M IMAGINING WEIRD STUFF.

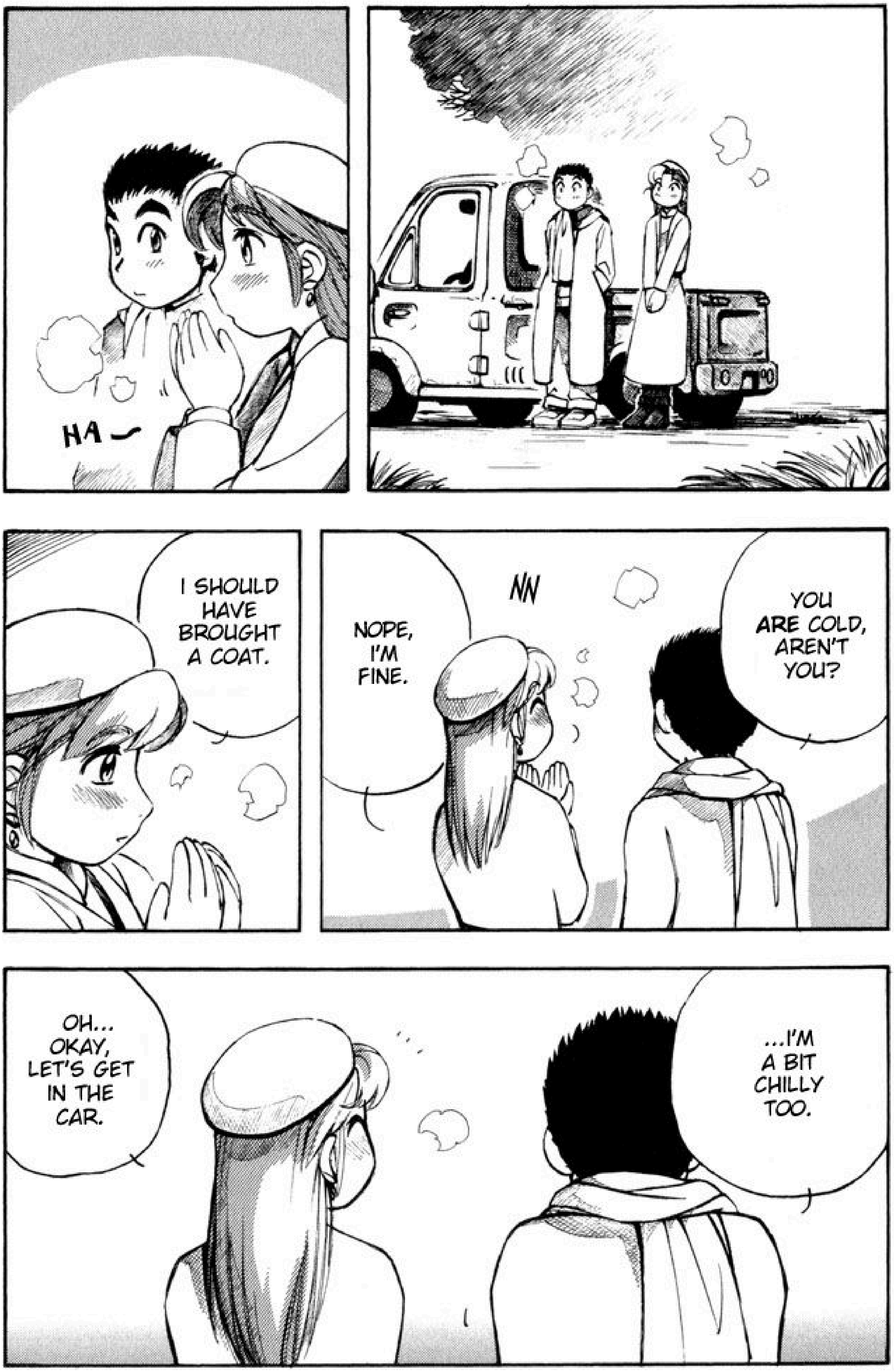



SFX: <HEEEY>
THANK GOODNESS! I WAS WONDERING IF YOU WERE GOING TO COME.
I SAID I WAS COMING, DIDN'T I?


WHAT'D YOU WANT TO SHOW ME?
WELL...
IT SHOULD BE HERE SOON.
EH?
SOME-ONE'S COMING HERE...?
HMM... WELL, YOU COULD SAY THAT.
?


I WAS SURPRISED BY YOUR SHOP.
YOU DID A REALLY NICE JOB ON IT.
AAAH, ACTUALLY...
IT'S JUST BOXES PILED UP, DON'T TRY LEANING AGAINST THE WALLS.
AH, IS THAT SO...


ALPHA... YOU WANT TO GET IN THE CAR?
IT'S GOT TO BE COLD WITH THOSE CLOTHES ON.
THAT'S OKAY.
BESIDES, IF I'M IN THE CAR, THE PERSON WE'RE WAITING FOR WON'T SEE ME.
......
SO...
WHO'S COMING? SOMEONE I KNOW?
NOPE. IT'S A SUR-PRISE.
WAIT AND SEE.


HA~
I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT A COAT.
NN
NOPE, I'M FINE.
YOU ARE COLD, AREN'T YOU?
OH... OKAY, LET'S GET IN THE CAR.
...I'M A BIT CHILLY TOO.


!
TAKAHIRO
...


JUST THE FRONT...
IS A LITTLE COLD.
OH
......


AH!
!!


ヴォ
!!!


AMAZING!!
SEE?

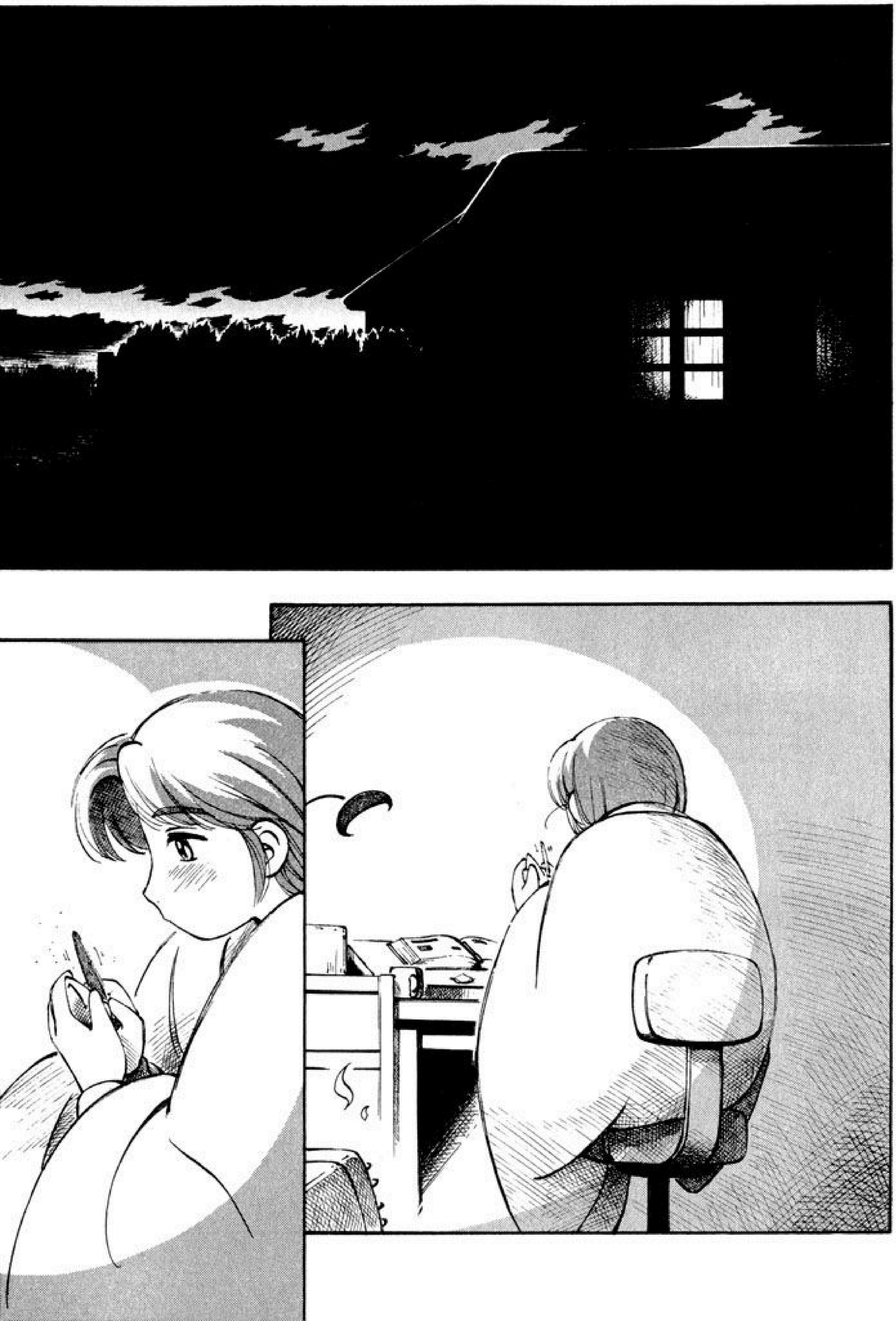

I GOT A LETTER THAT SAID THE TREE WITH THE SHRINE WOULD MAKE A GOOD LAND-MARK,
AND THAT HE'D BE PASSING OVER IT.
I WANTED TO LET YOU SEE IT TOO.
I'D LOVE TO SEE IT UP CLOSE.
YEAH, SOME-DAY.


HEY, LOOK! HE'S WAVING GOODBYE!
WOW...

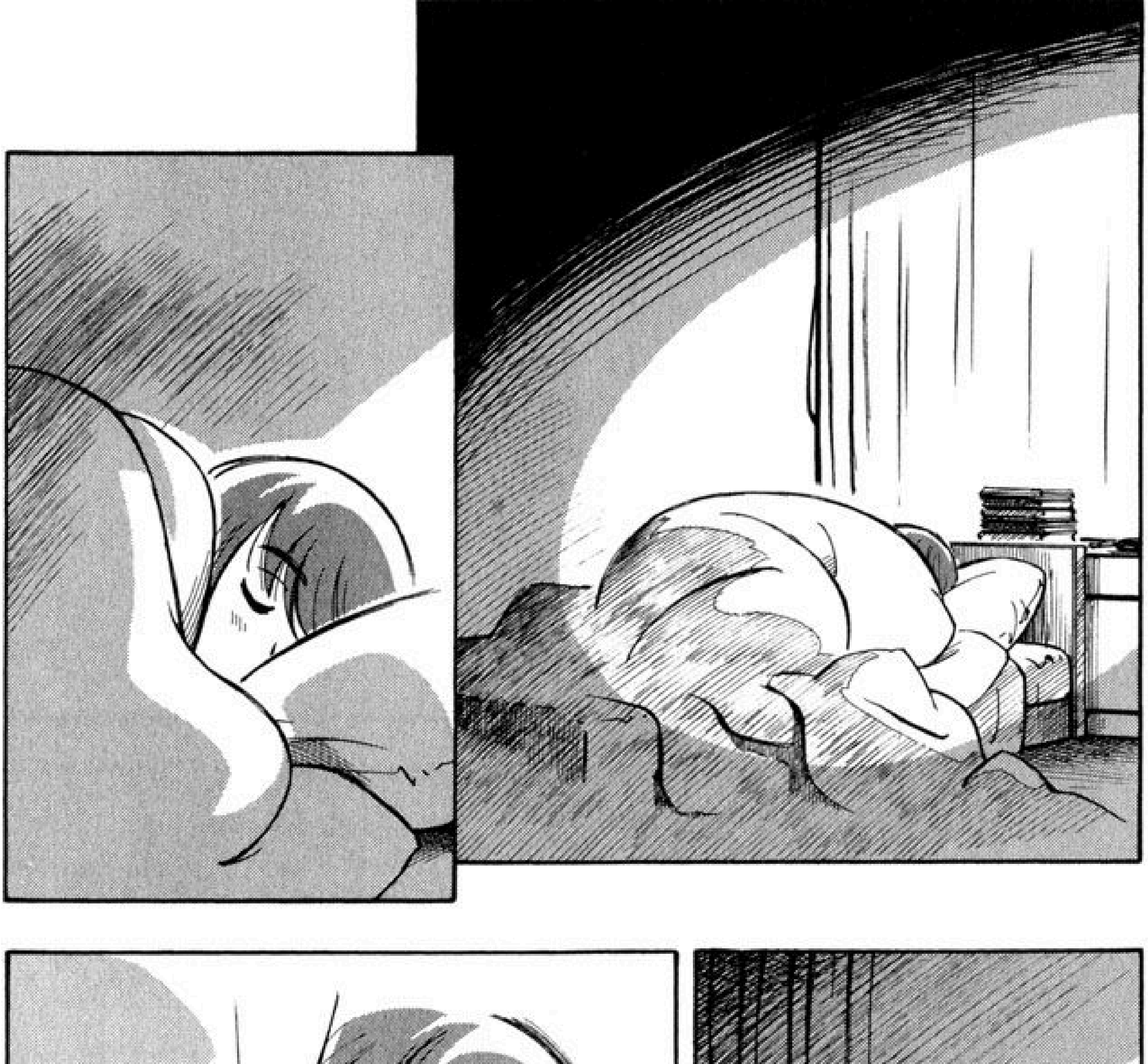


Story 91 Winter's End

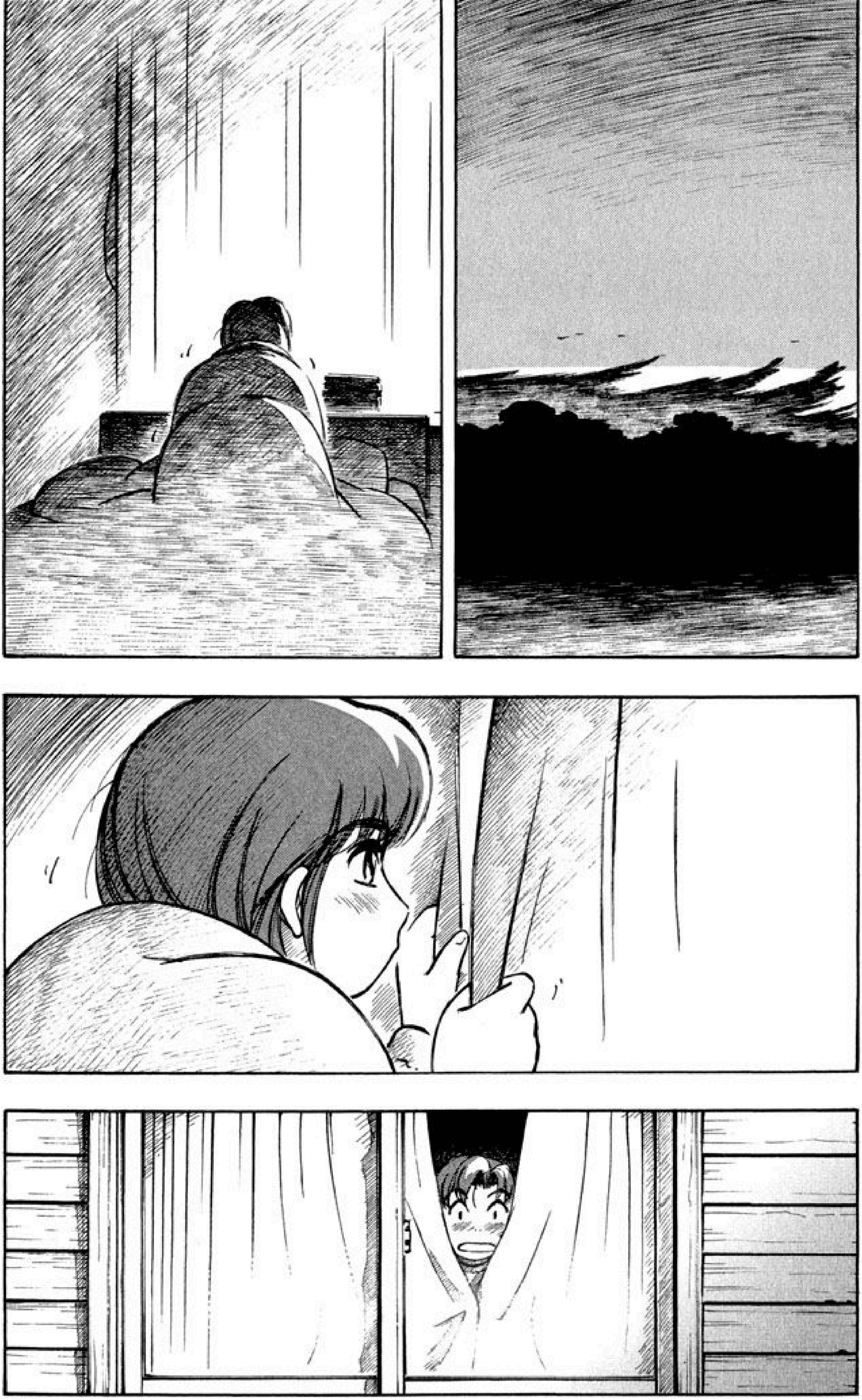





FU
CLICK
......
TIC
TIC
TIC


KASA


KASA
KASA
......
KASA
SIGH
KASA




WOW!!

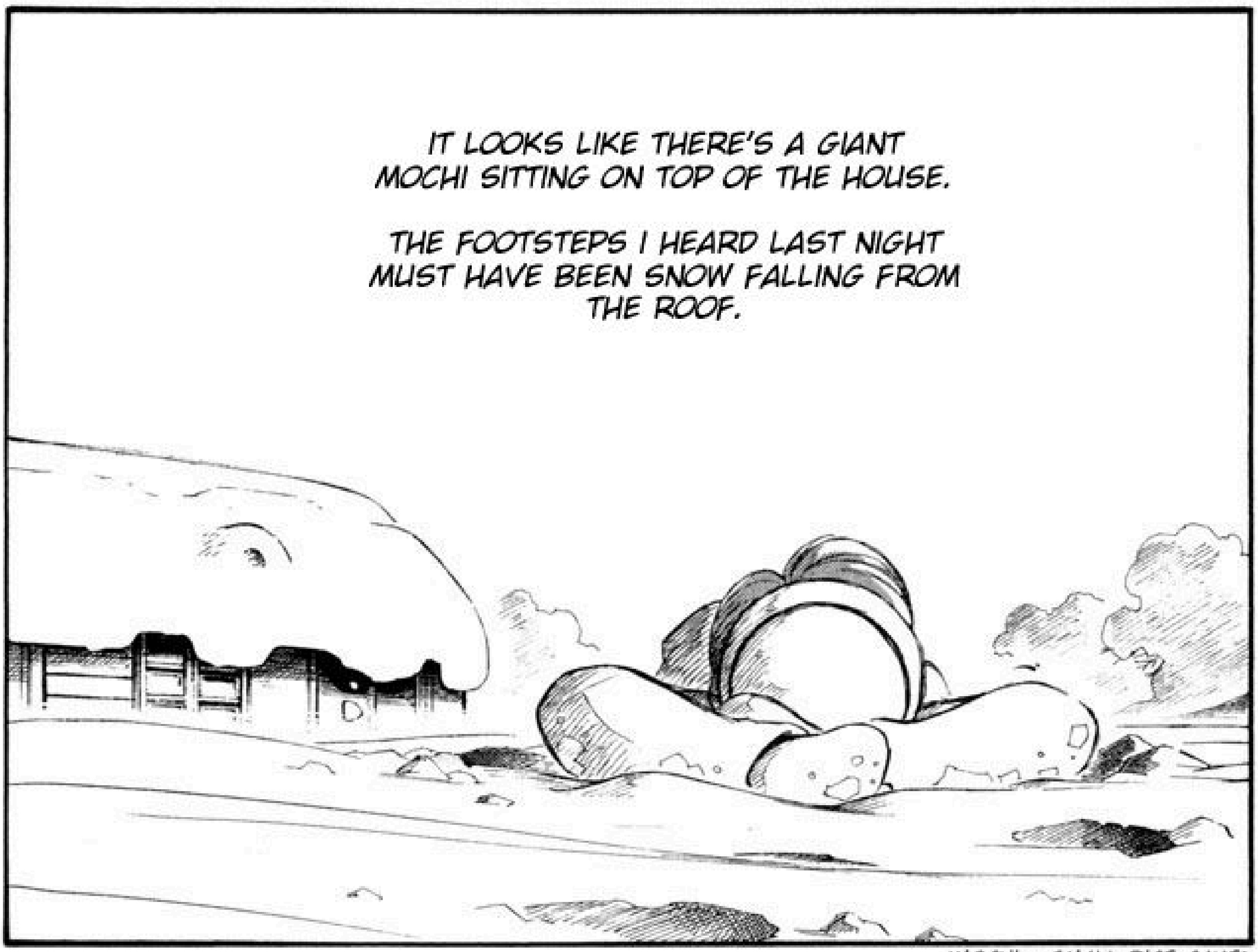



SNOW! IT'S SNOW! I'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE!
IT FEELS LIKE IT'S THERE AND NOT THERE AT THE SAME TIME.
SORT OF HOT, AND SORT OF COLD.

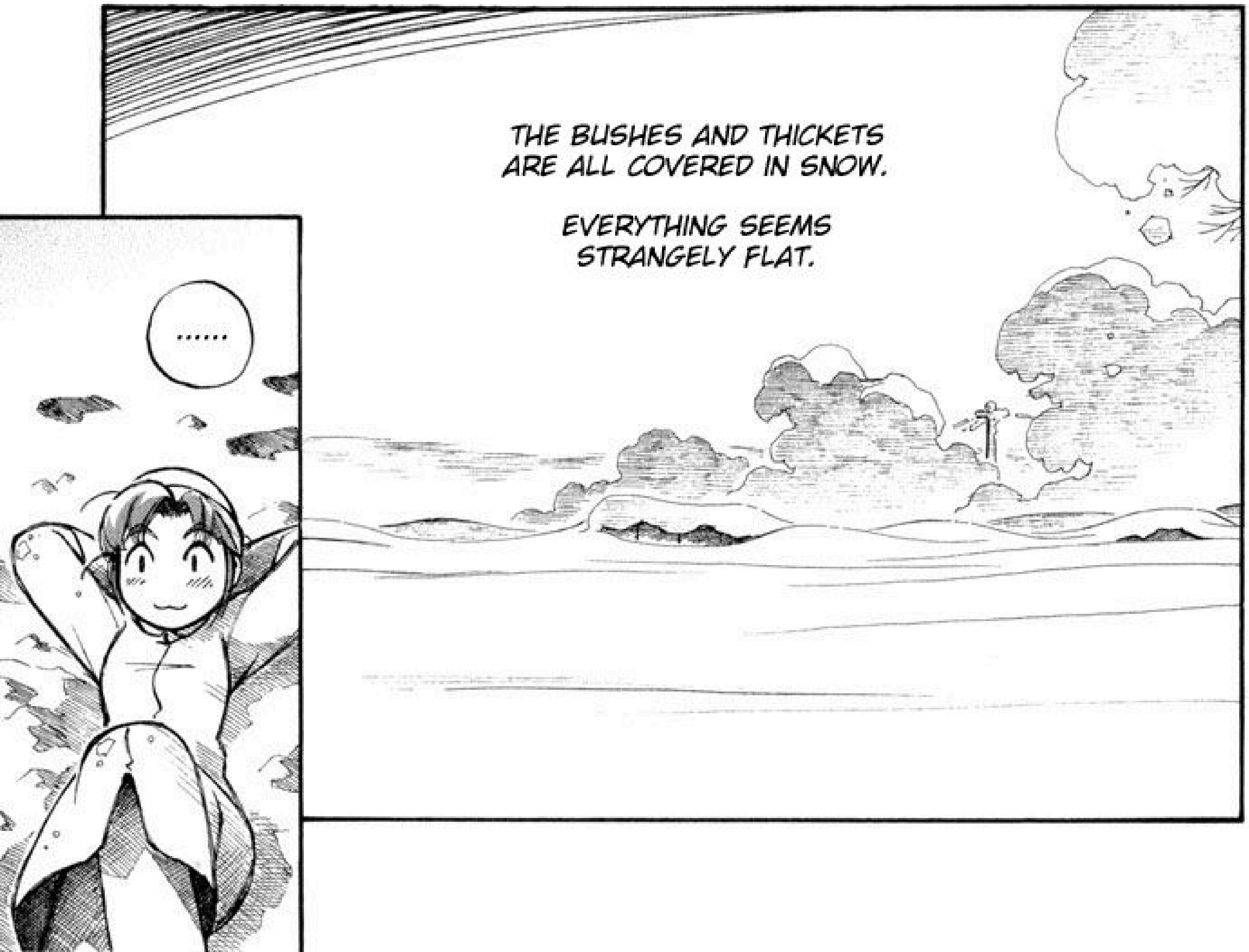

BLUE AND WHITE
AND BLACK!
EVERYTHING'S
DIFFERENT!

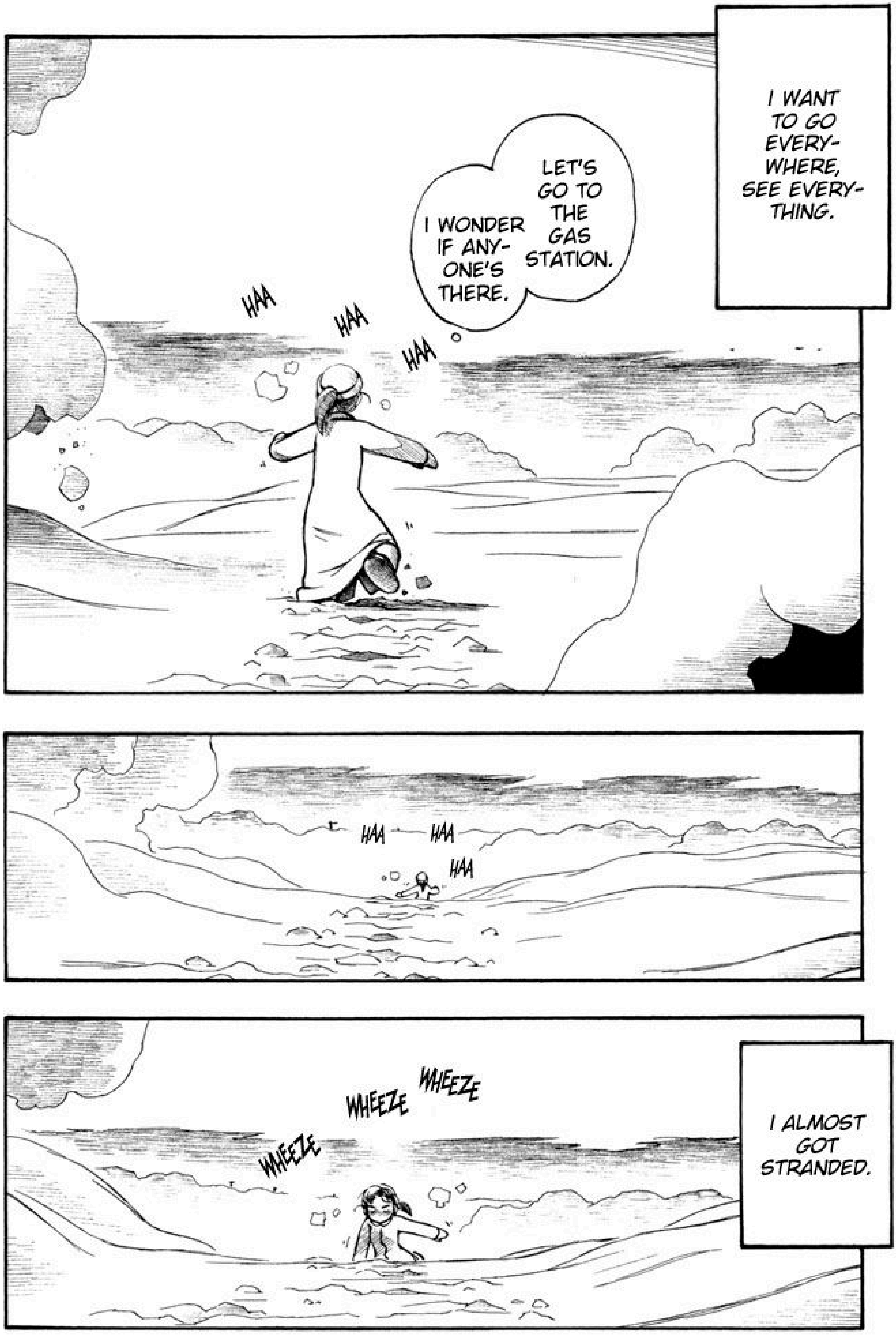


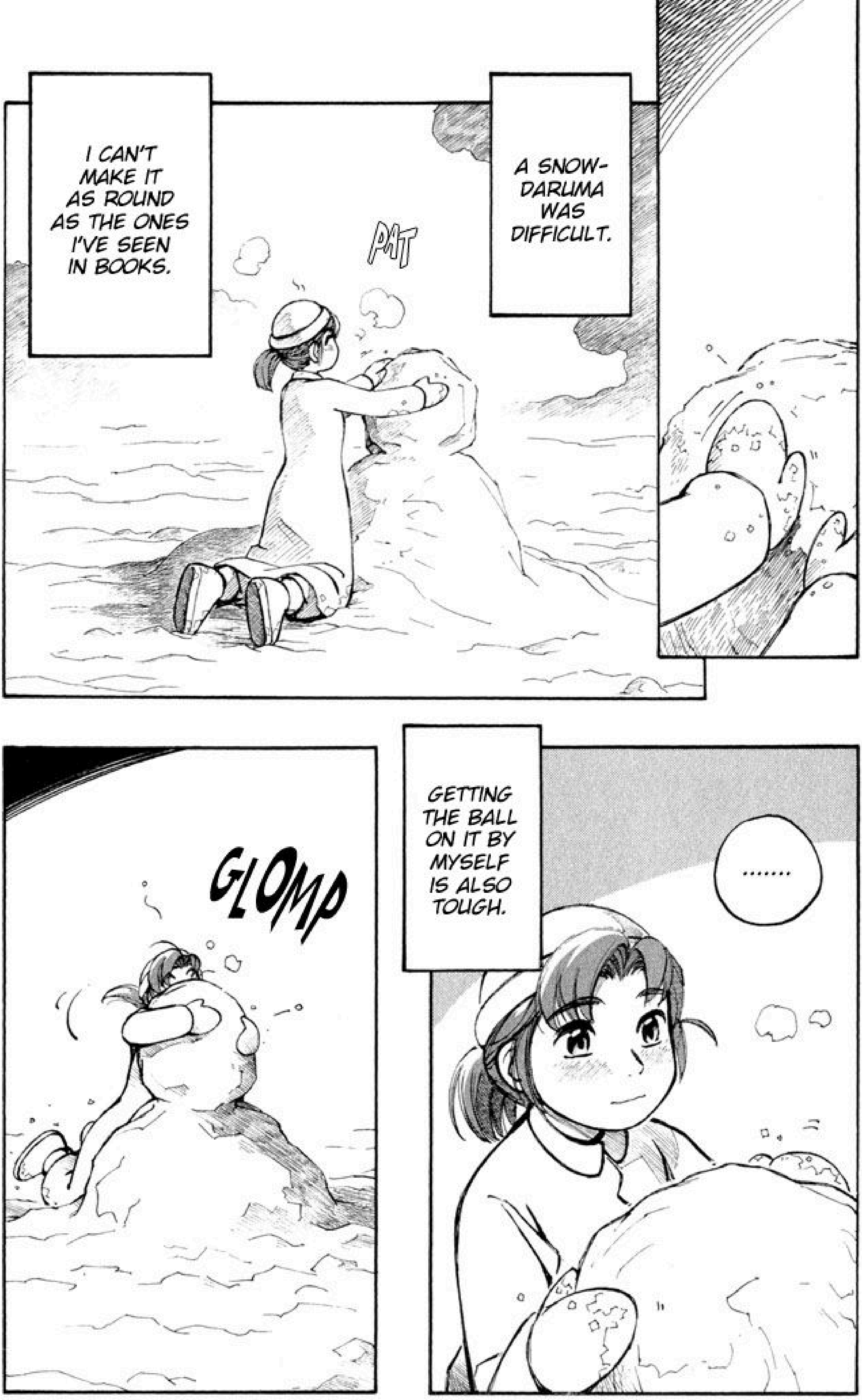

FLOP
AHHH

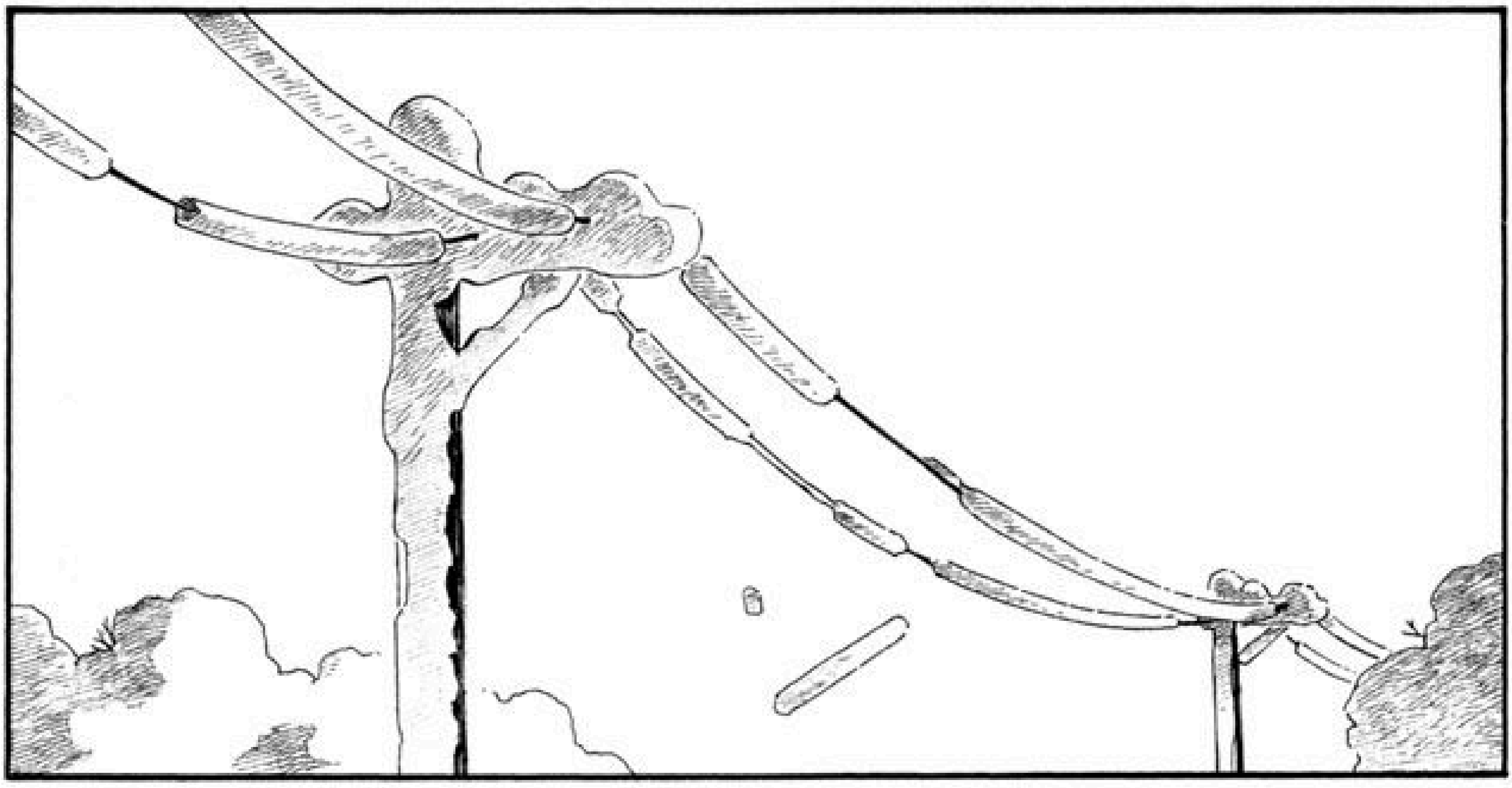


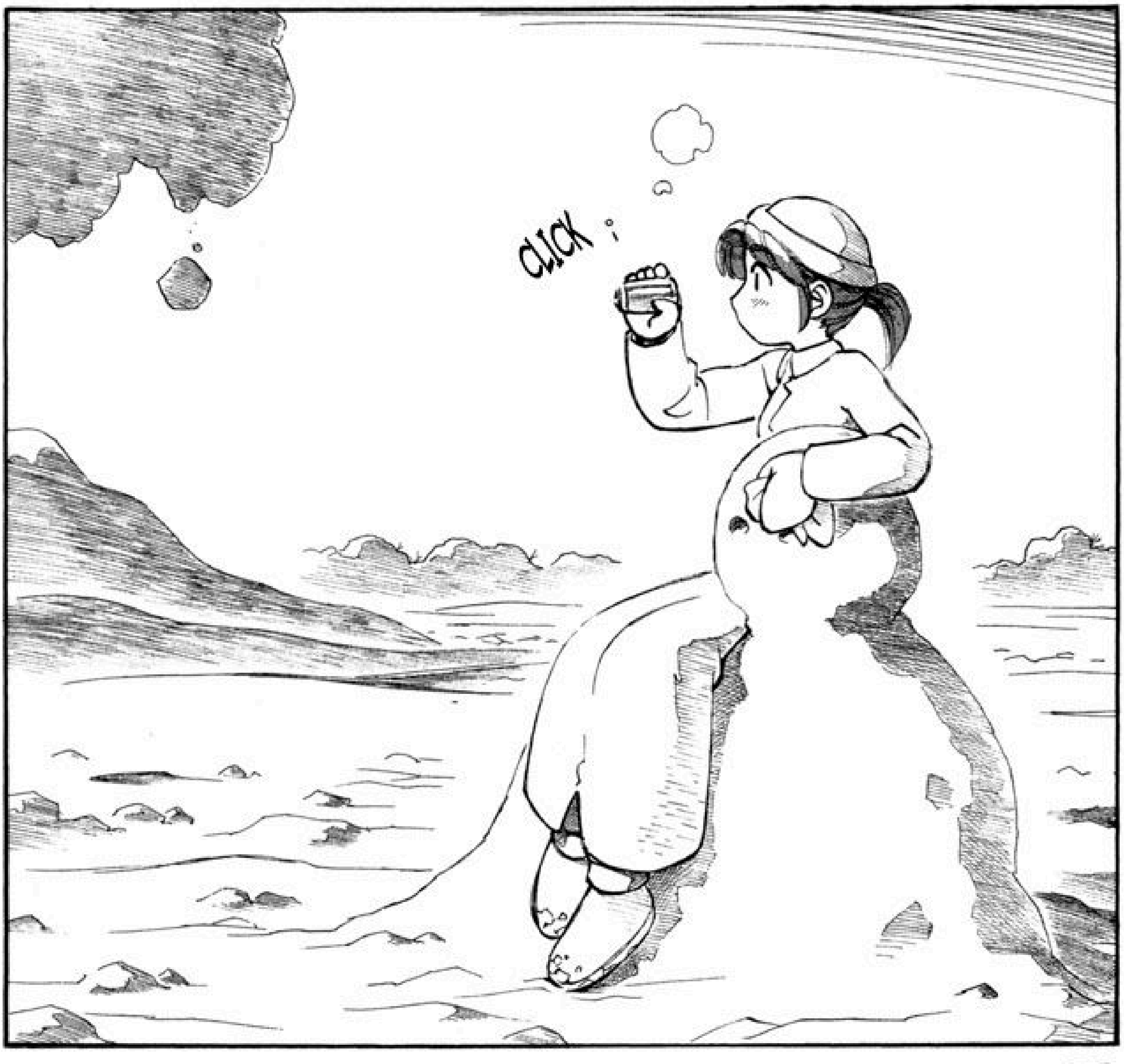
<MOCHI - SMALL RICE CAKE>




I WANT TO GO EVERYWHERE, SEE EVERYTHING.
LET'S GO TO THE GAS STATION.
I WONDER IF ANYONE'S THERE.
HAA HAA HAA
HAA HAA HAA
I ALMOST GOT STRANDED.
WHEEZE WHEEZE WHEEZE


A SNOW-DARUMA WAS DIFFICULT.
PAT
I CAN'T MAKE IT AS ROUND AS THE ONES I'VE SEEN IN BOOKS.
GETTING THE BALL ON IT BY MYSELF IS ALSO TOUGH.
....
GLOMP

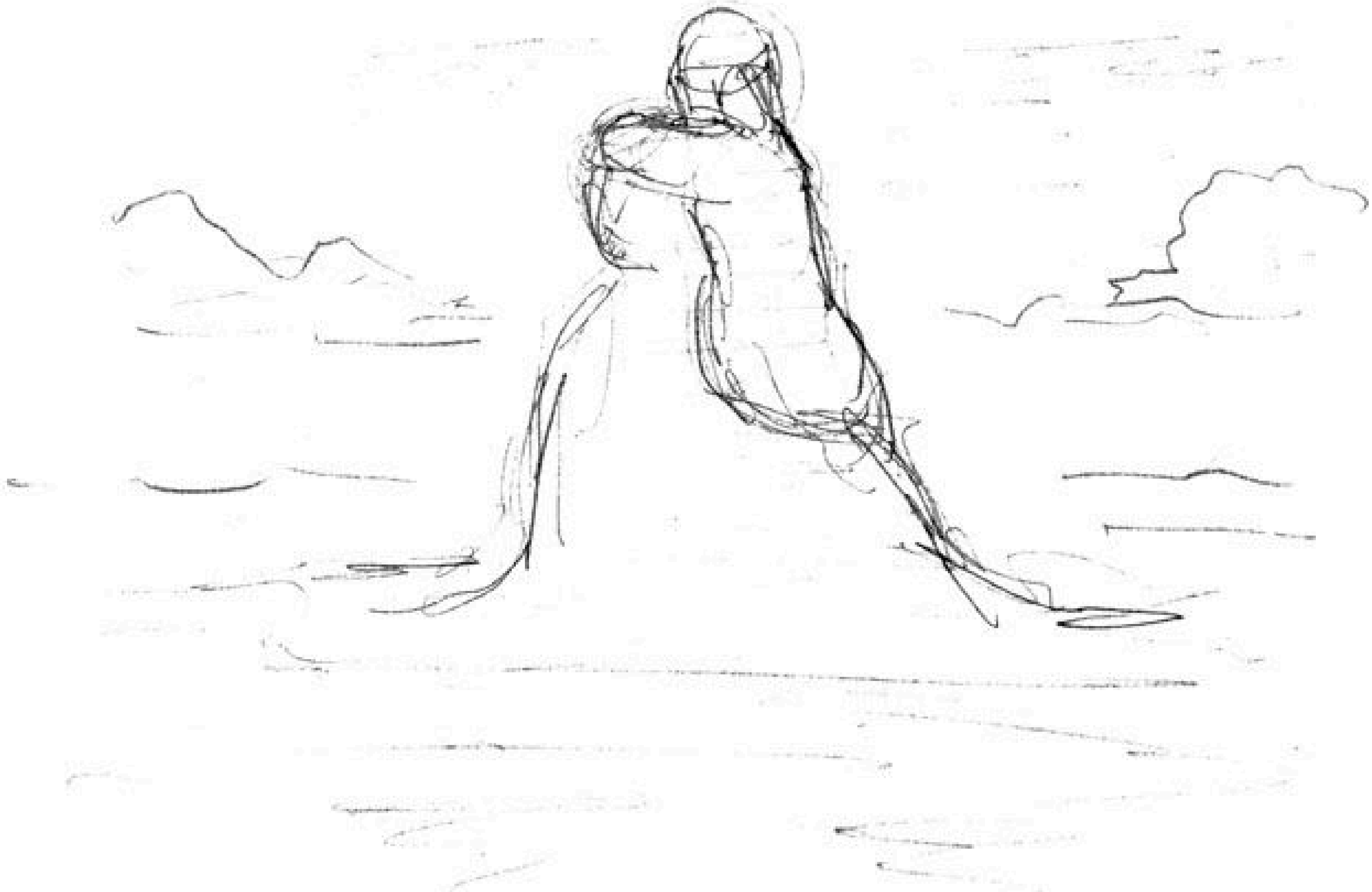



CLICK


THE SNOW VANISHED AFTER ABOUT A WEEK.
THE SNOW-DARUMA STAYED FOR A BIT LONGER.


I MADE SOME OF THE CLEAN, EARLY MORNING SNOW INTO BALLS.
I HAVE TEN OF THEM IN THE FREEZER.






Story 92
Maruko Tea

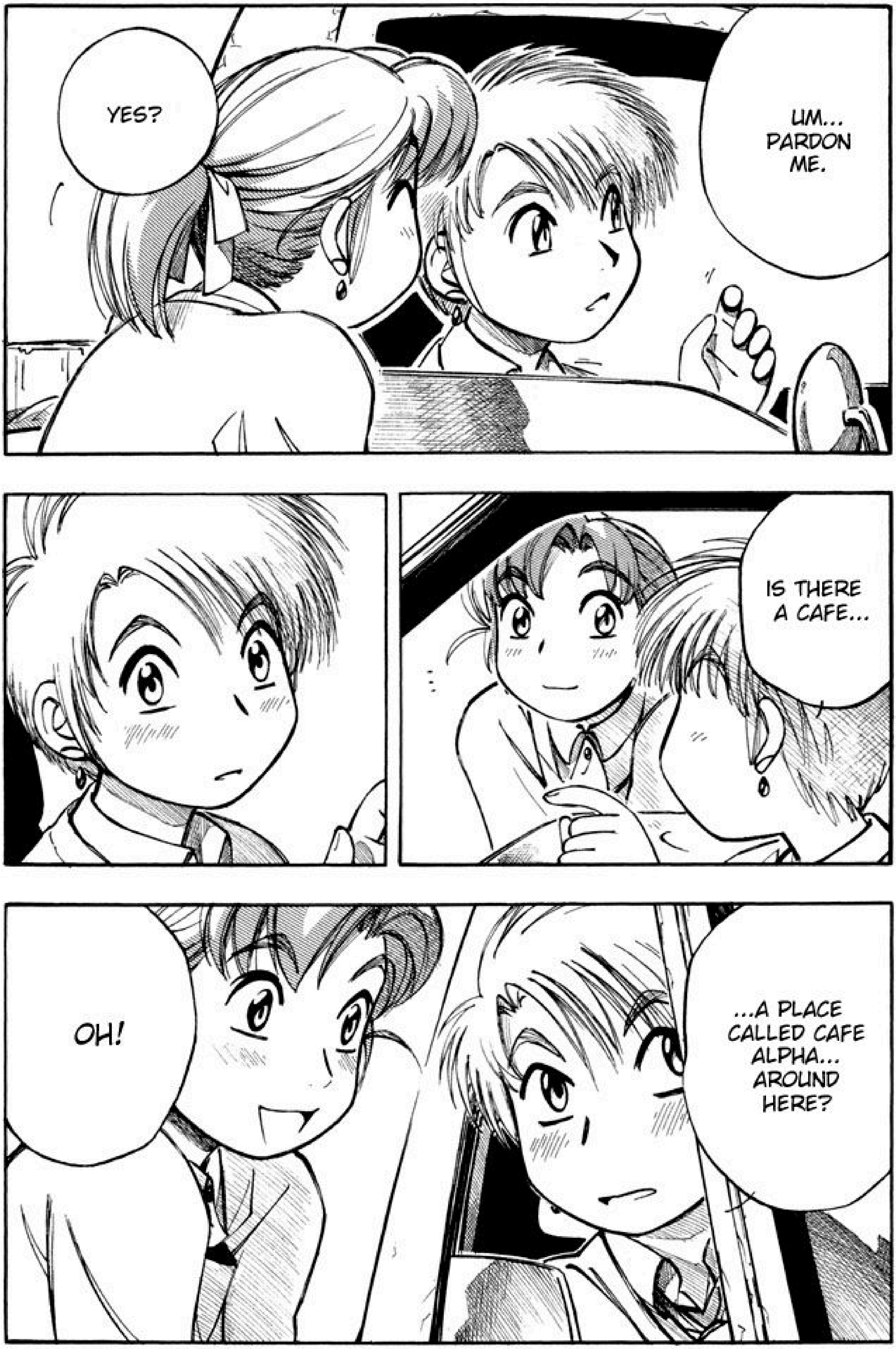


CAR SIGN: <STATIONERY, PAINTING MATERIALS AND PICTURE FRAME WHOLESALER.>


....
Neutron
FLAP


お茶
コーヒー
灯油
ガソリン
SLURP


ブーン‥
キーー
HELLO!
Neutron


UM... PARDON ME.
YES?
IS THERE A CAFE...
...A PLACE CALLED CAFE ALPHA... AROUND HERE?
OH!


THAT'S MY PLACE!
RIGHT NOW, IT'S IN THE MIDDLE OF REMODELLING... WELL, A BIT MORE LIKE REBUILDING.
SO FOR TODAY, CAFE ALPHA IS RIGHT HERE!
WELCOME!
Neutron
I... SEE...


...SO.
WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND?
I'VE GOT SOME HOME MADE DOKU-DAMI TEA TODAY.
THERE'S A SEAT INSIDE IF YOU LIKE.
HERE IS FINE.
OKAY.
HERE YOU GO.
UM... DO YOU MIND IF I JOIN YOU?
WHAT? OH... SURE.


....
THAT'S A WONDERFUL CAR, ISN'T IT?
WHAT?
WHAT IS?
THAT'S JUST A LIGHT TRUCK FROM MY TEMP JOB.
HMM... BUT IT'S PRETTY NICE...


UM... WHICH WAY DID YOU COME FROM?
....
THAT WAY.
HA HA HA HA HA
OH, I SEE!
SAY...
DO YOU ALWAYS TALK TOGETHER WITH YOUR CUSTOMERS?
UM... WELL...
USUALLY ...



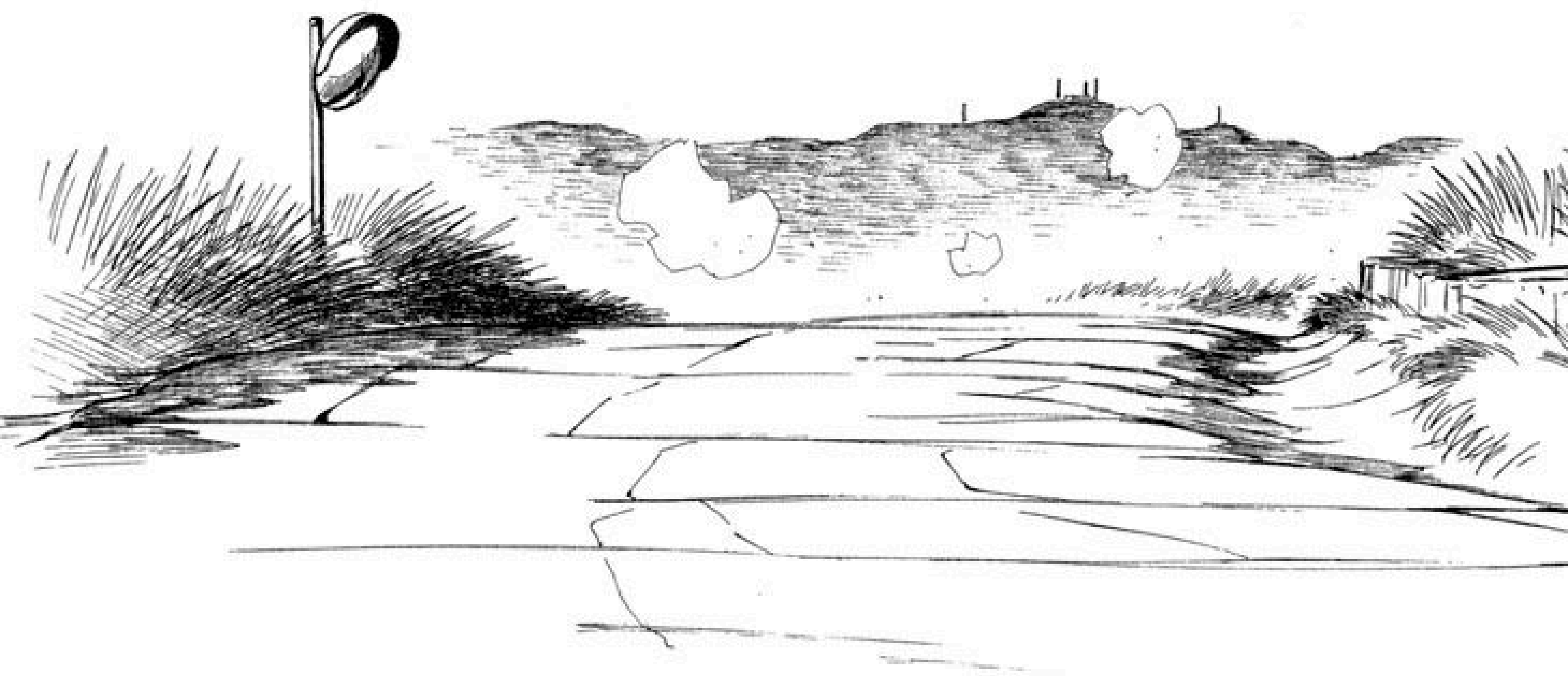
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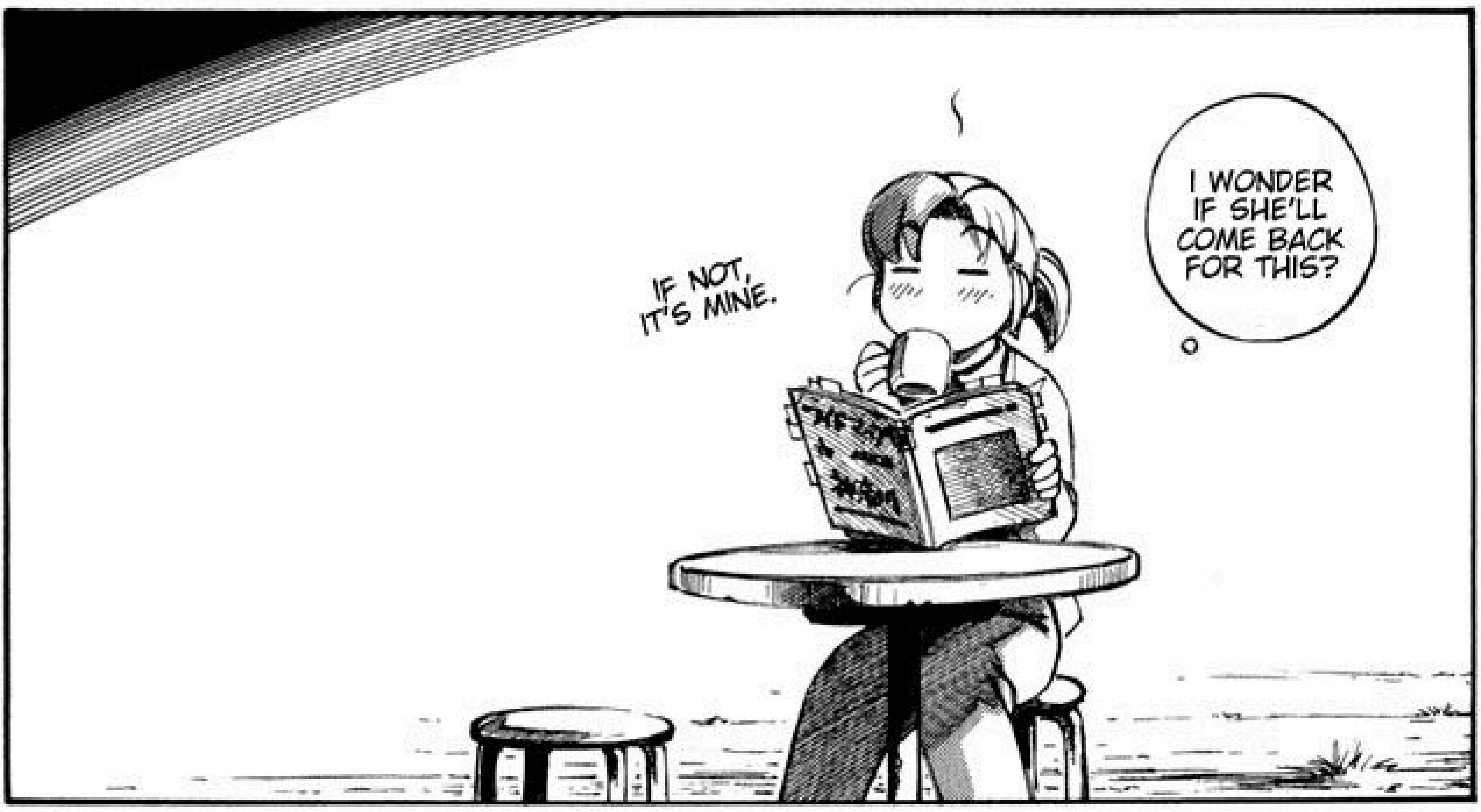

SO...
ふぅ
MAYBE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED...
BUT I AM ALSO A ROBOT.
WHAT!?
REALLY!? WOW!!


THERE ARE?
You're the third robot that I have met!
THERE MUST BE LOTS OF ROBOTS!
CAN I ASK WHAT YOUR NAME IS?
UM...
HUH?
NOPE.


WELL ANYWAY, WE'LL PROB-ABLY RUN INTO EACH OTHER AGAIN SOME-WHERE.
SEE YOU LATER.
WELL...
TIME TO HEAD HOME.
OH.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HEY, THANKS.
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, THIS ISN'T MUCH OF A "COFFEE SHOP."
ALAS, NO.

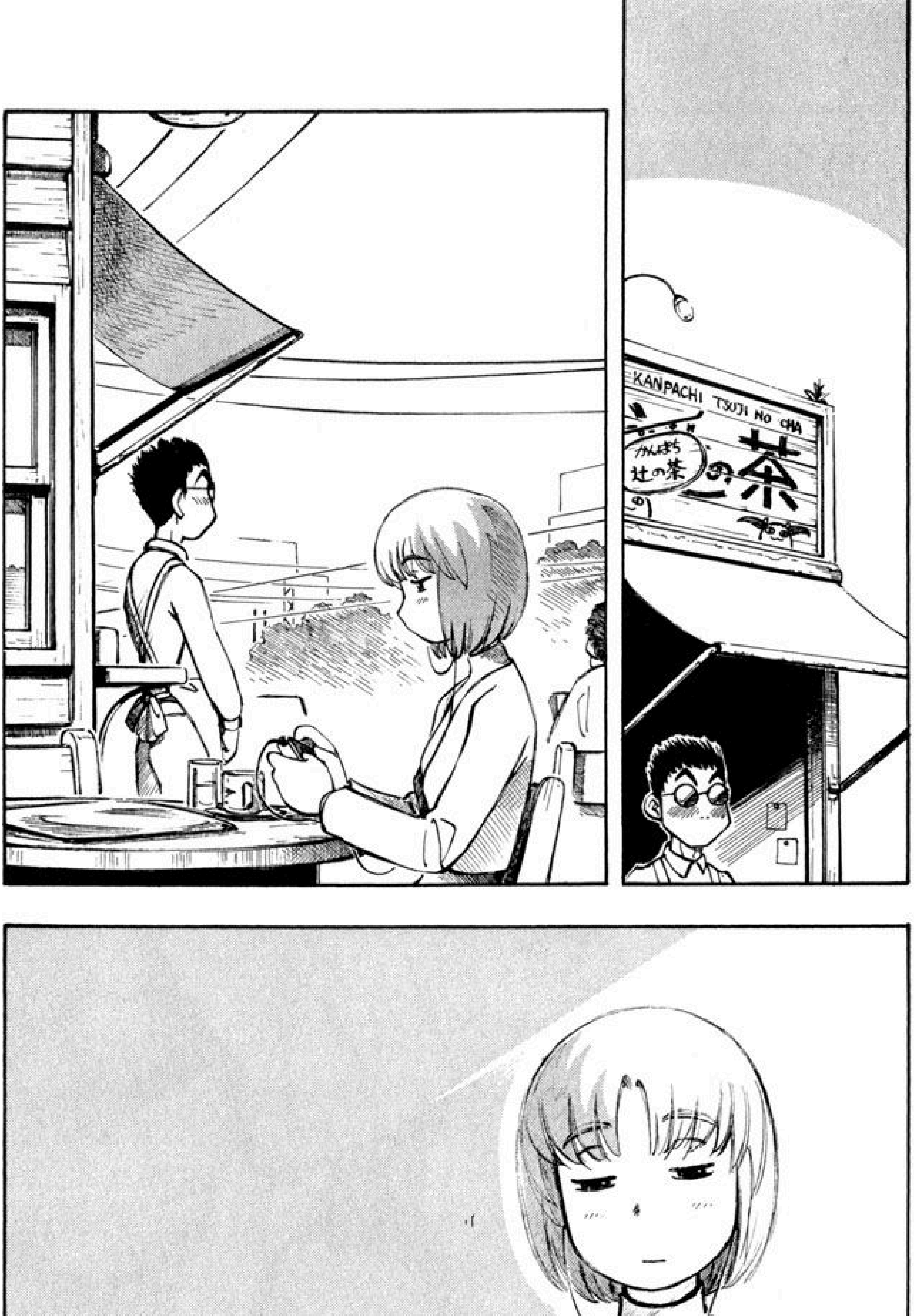

FEEL FREE TO COME AGAIN!
THERE WERE A LOT OF THINGS I WANTED TO TALK TO HER ABOUT.


OH, WELL.
ANOTHER TIME.

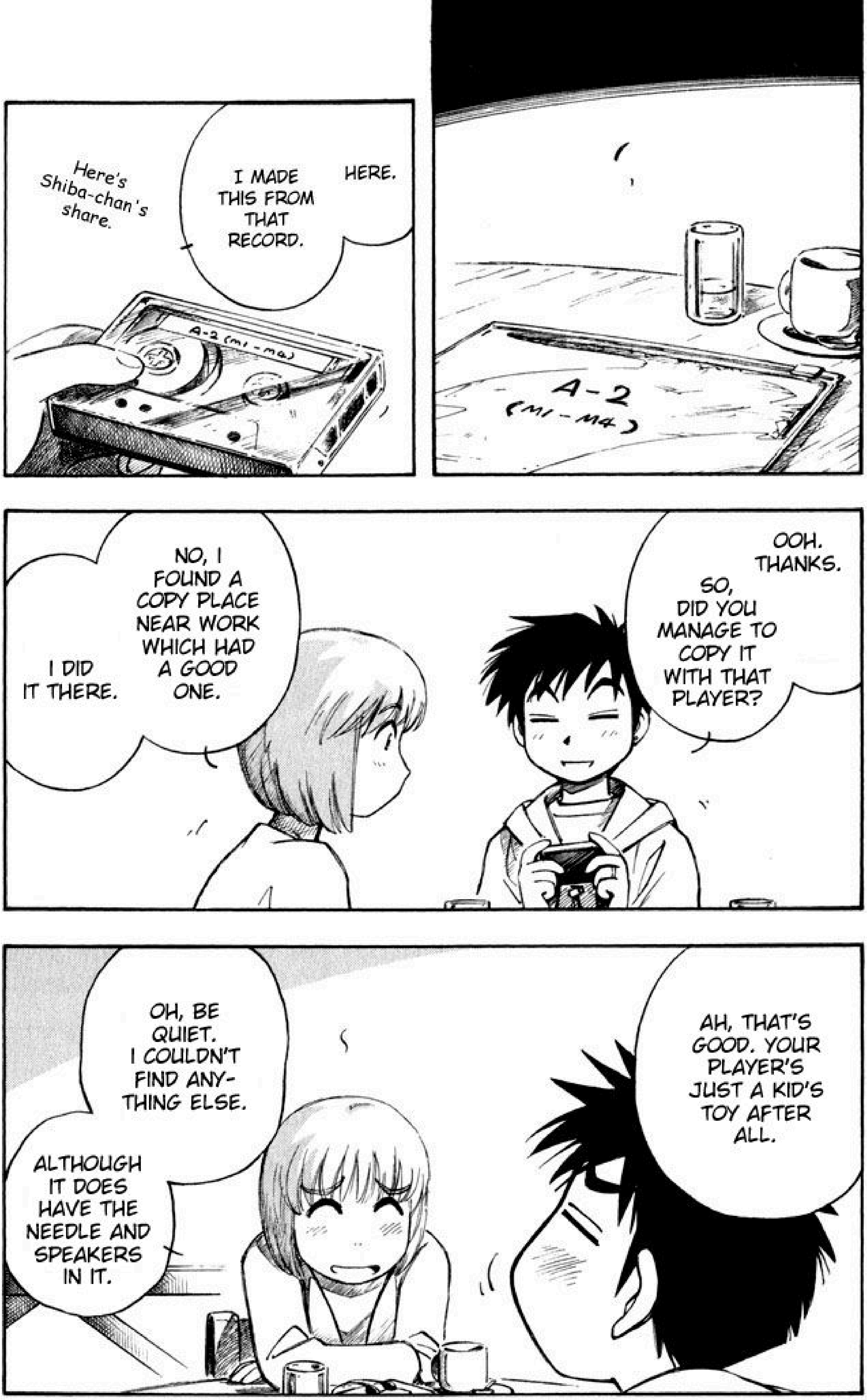

I WONDER IF SHE'LL COME BACK FOR THIS?
IF NOT, IT'S MINE.

Story 93 Flower of Humanity




KANPACHI TSUJI NO CHA
かんぱち
辻の茶
の茶


YO.
NYA!
YOU... SURPRISED ME.
SORRY I'M LATE. DIDN'T MEAN TO SCARE YOU LIKE THAT.


HERE.
I MADE THIS FROM THAT RECORD.
Here's Shiba-chan's share.
A-2 (M1-M4)
OOH. THANKS.
SO, DID YOU MANAGE TO COPY IT WITH THAT PLAYER?
NO, I FOUND A COPY PLACE NEAR WORK WHICH HAD A GOOD ONE.
I DID IT THERE.
AH, THAT'S GOOD. YOUR PLAYER'S JUST A KID'S TOY AFTER ALL.
OH, BE QUIET. I COULDN'T FIND ANY-THING ELSE.
ALTHOUGH IT DOES HAVE THE NEEDLE AND SPEAKERS IN IT.


I'M SURPRISED YOU LIKE THIS RECORD.
I WAS SURE THAT I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO'D BE INTERESTED IN IT.
YEAH?
A-2
I WAS MORE SUR-PRISED THAT YOU WERE LISTENING TO THIS TAPE.
IT'S A REALLY NICE, ELEGANT LITTLE MELODY.
... IT IS?
OH YEAH, IT'S REALLY PRETTY.


THIS... DON'T YOU FEEL IT IN YOUR HEAD?
THE RHYTHM AND THE MUSIC MIX TOGETHER.
IN YOUR BRAIN?
YEAH.
DOESN'T IT FEEL SOME-THING LIKE THAT?
HOW TO PUT IT... LIKE HAVING AN ITCH, AND FINALLY SCRATCHING IT.
IT SORT OF MAKES YOUR EYES GET HEAVY.
AH! ME TOO!

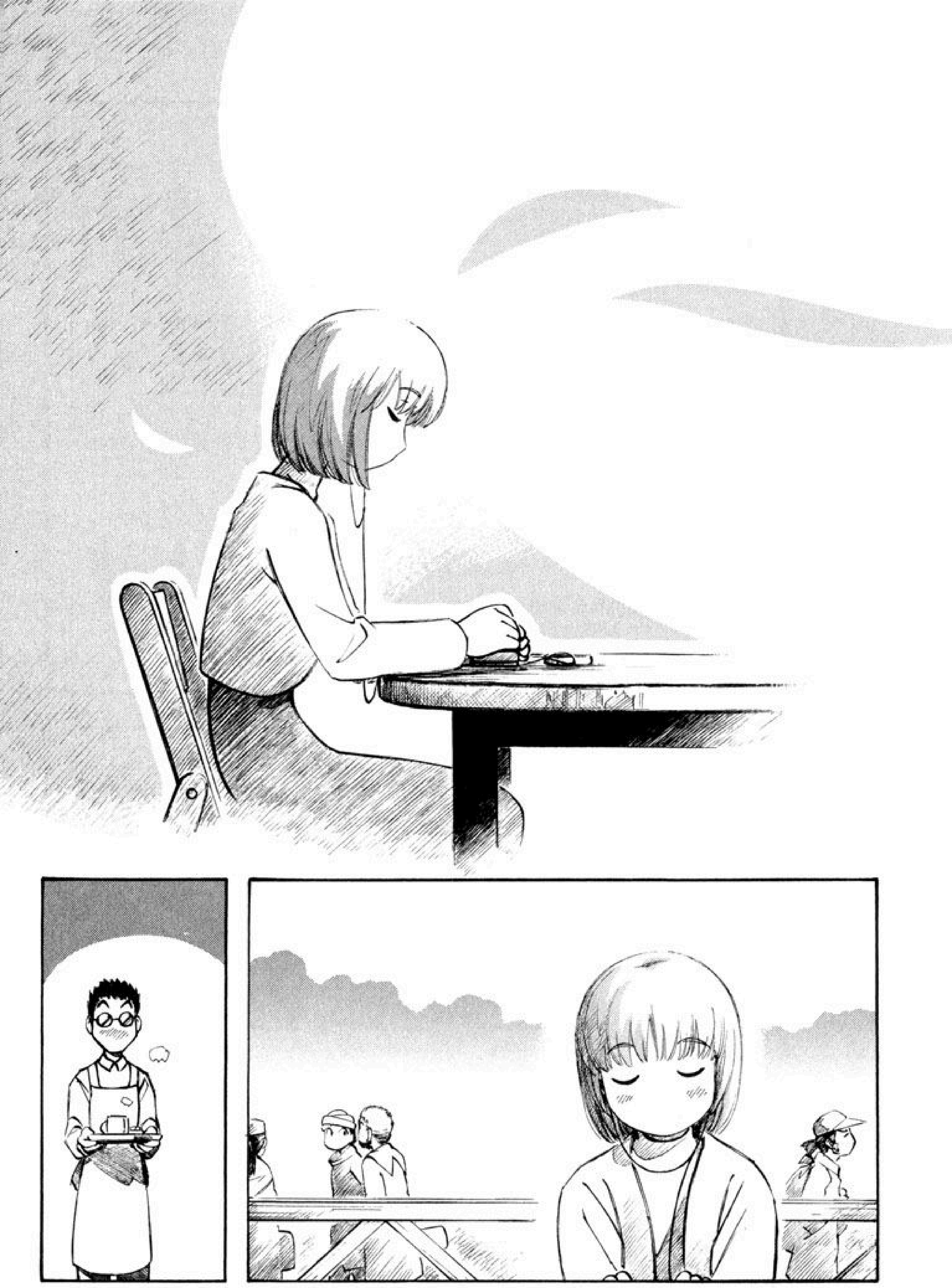


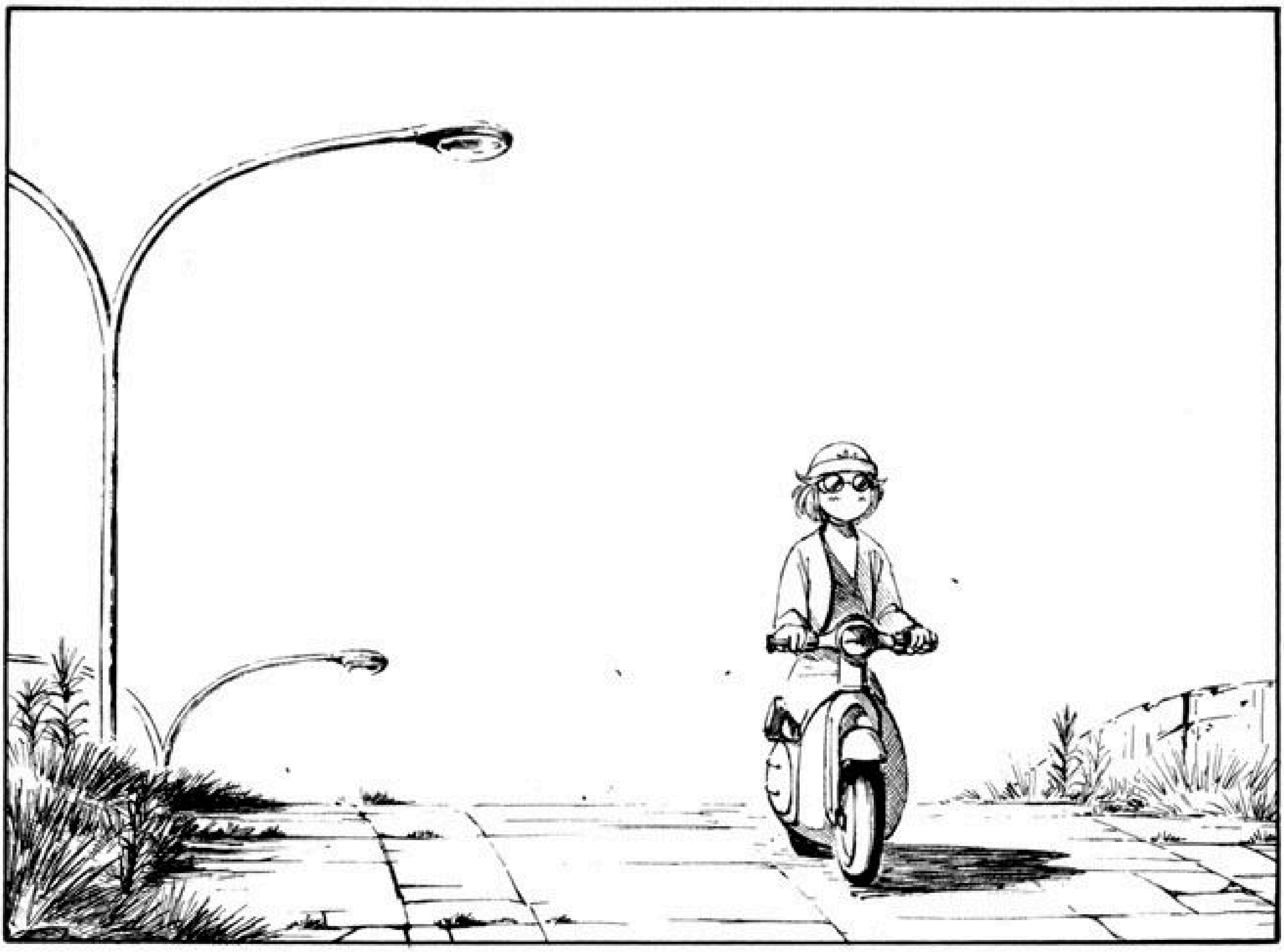
I'M GOING TO KINUTA TODAY TO RETURN THIS.
YEAH?
....
SO THEY LET YOU BORROW IT IF YOU USED THE WEIRD JACKET?
TO TELL THE TRUTH, IT FELT LIKE IT WAS MEANT TO BE.
HMMM.


WELL, SEE YOU TOM- ORROW.
SEE YOU.
....


UM... ONE CUP OF HOT BARLEY TEA PLEASE.
OH... YES.
A-2



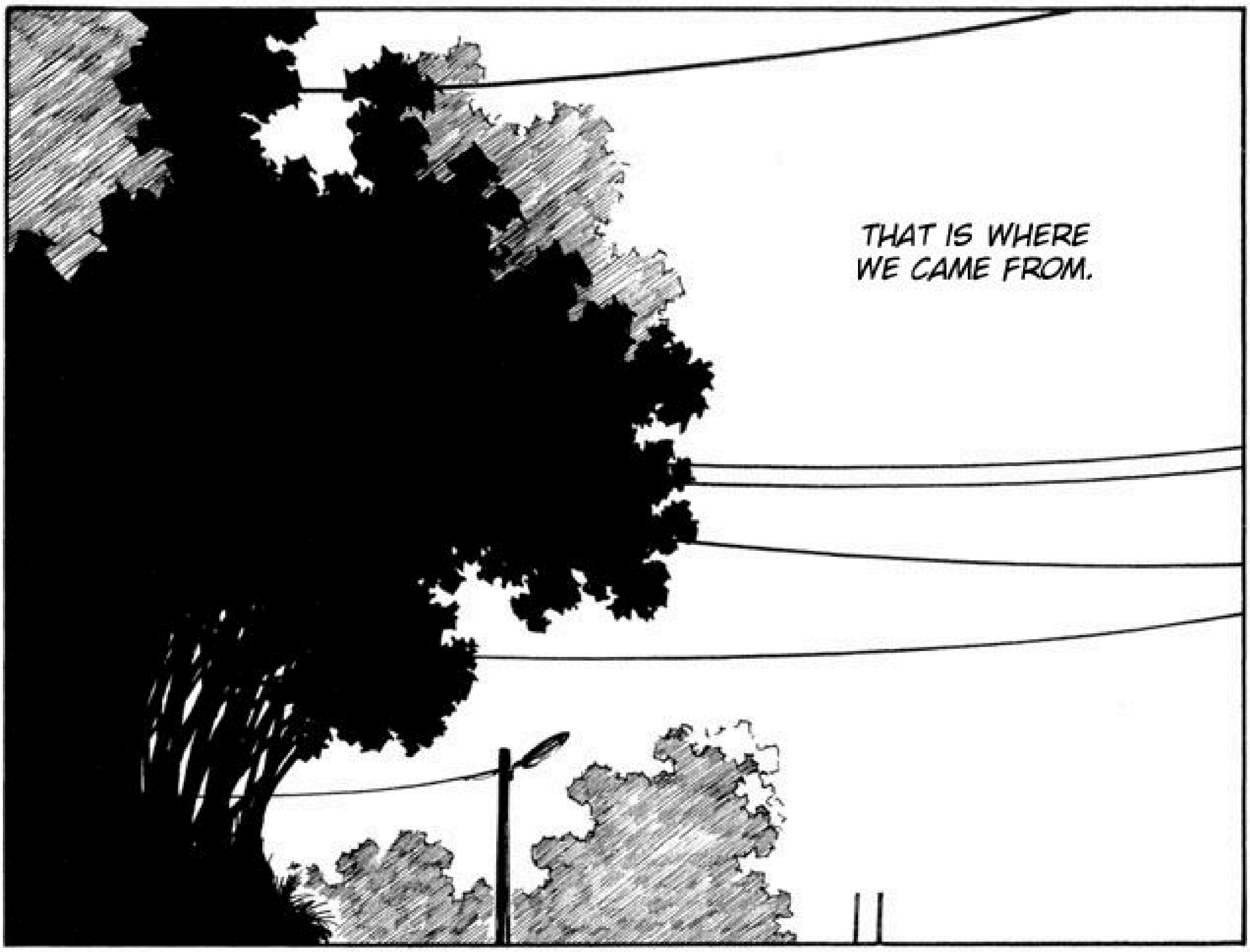




"THERE IS A SOUND THAT FLOWS WITHIN MY BLOOD."

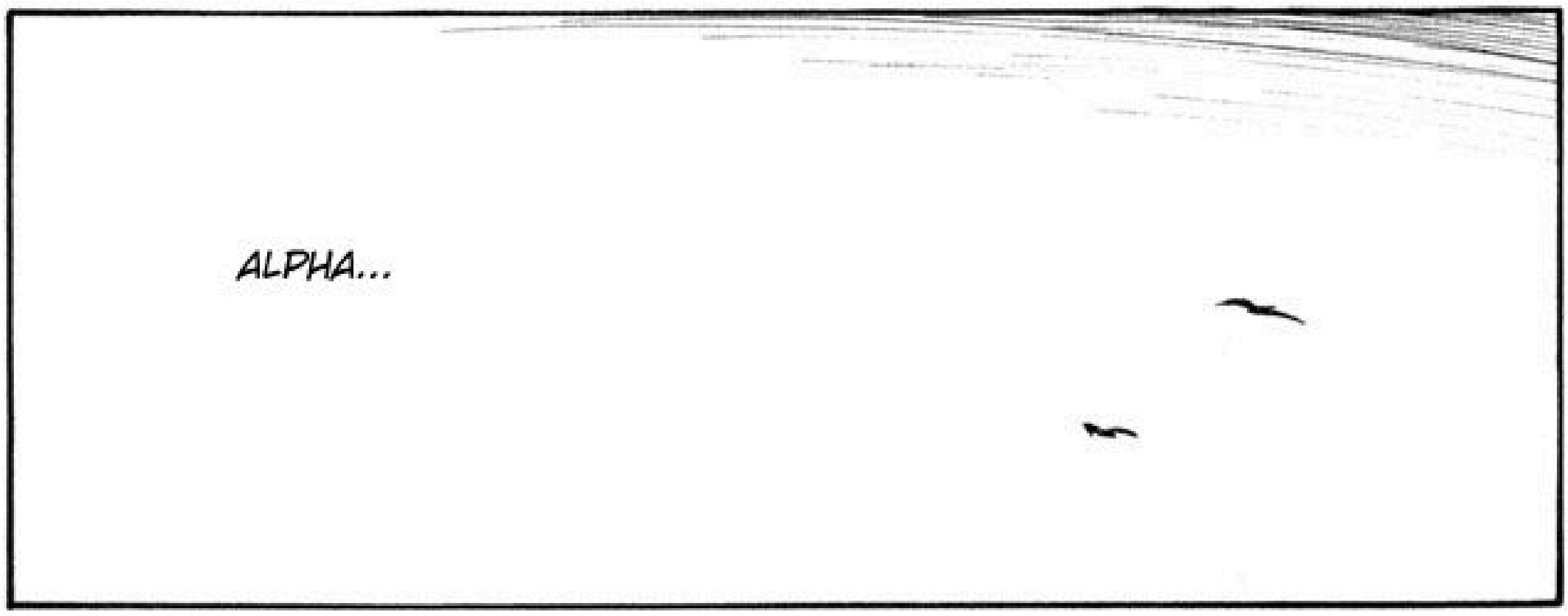


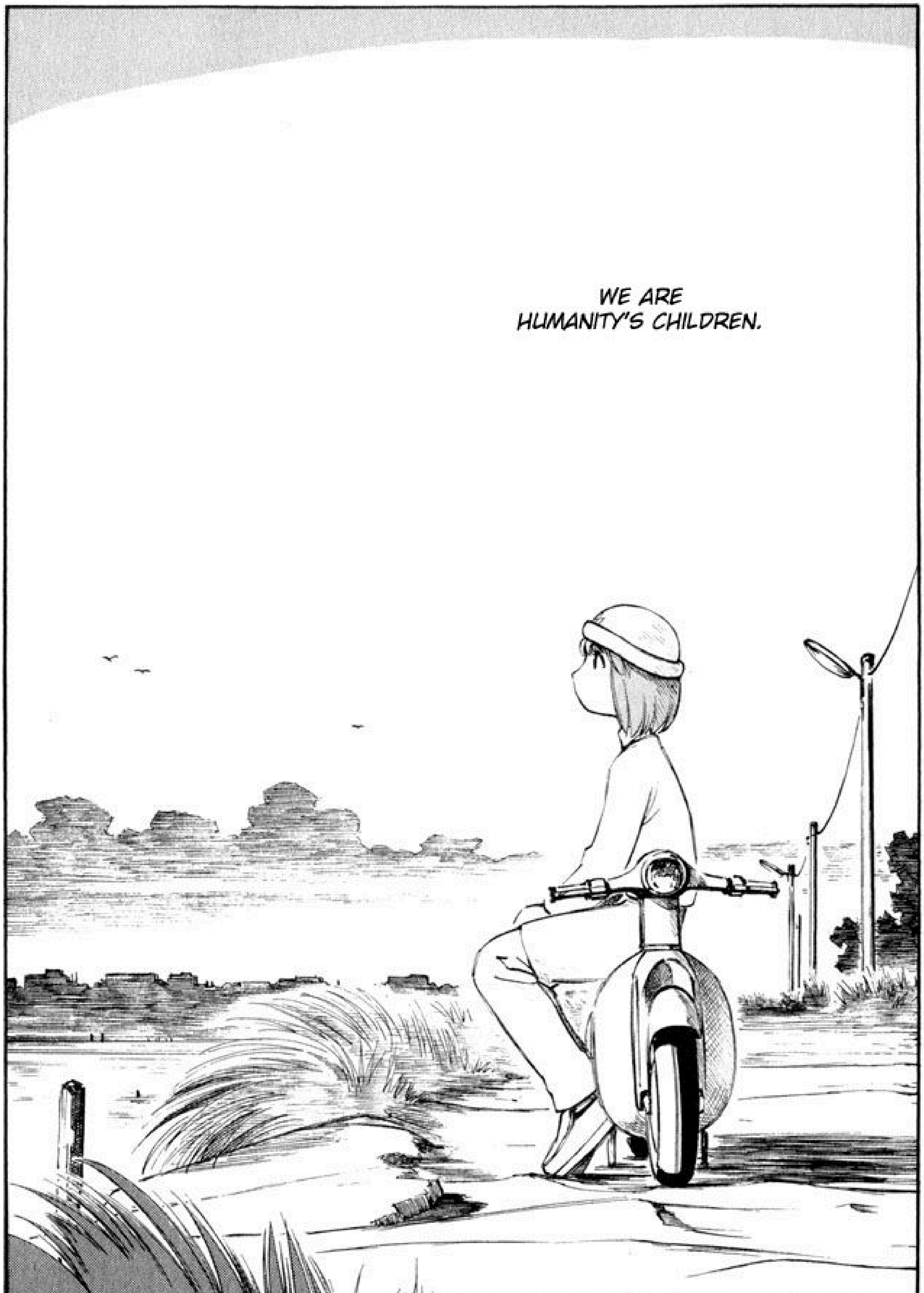

A LONG TIME AGO, SENSEI SHOWED ME THESE MIXED COLORS... AND THE SENSE OF SMELL...
A-2
(M1-M4)
AND THIS RECORD...
THE BLOOMING SEED OF OTHER EMOTIONS.


THAT IS WHERE WE CAME FROM.


WE ARE...
BORN OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THOSE EXPERIENCES THAT HUMANS SAVOR.




ALPHA...



Story 93 - End

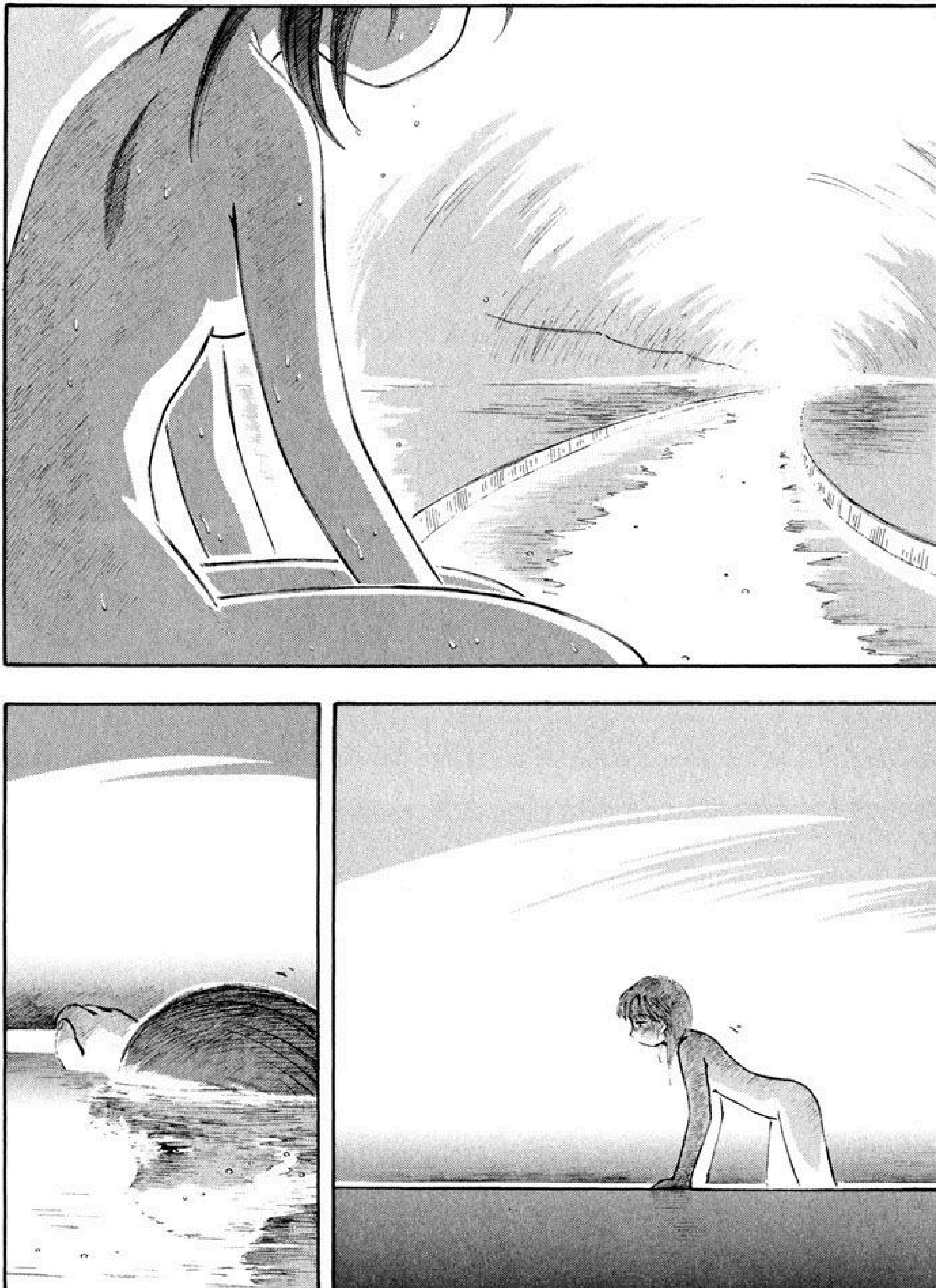

Story 94 Echo


café
Alpha
café
Alpha


YAWN



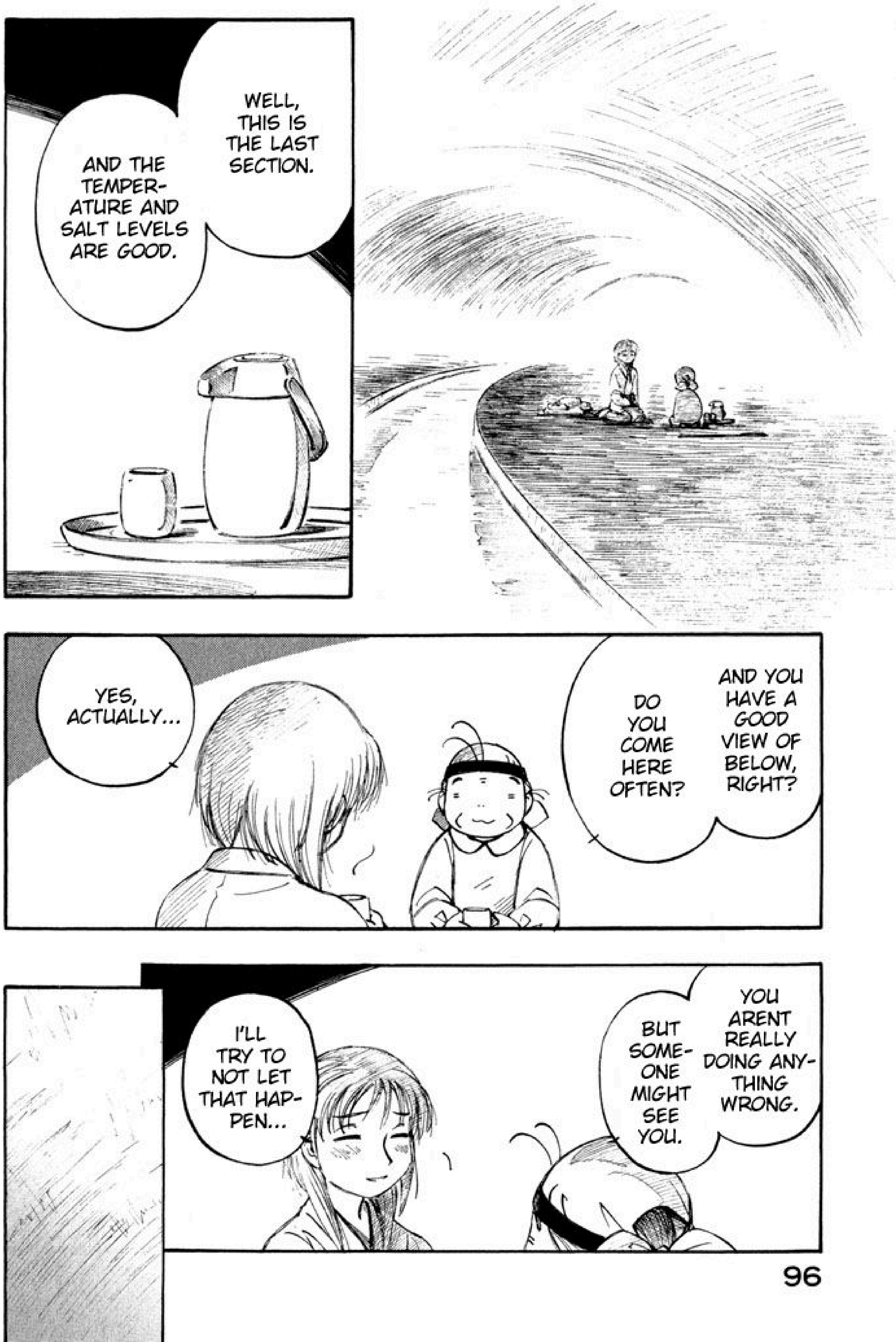






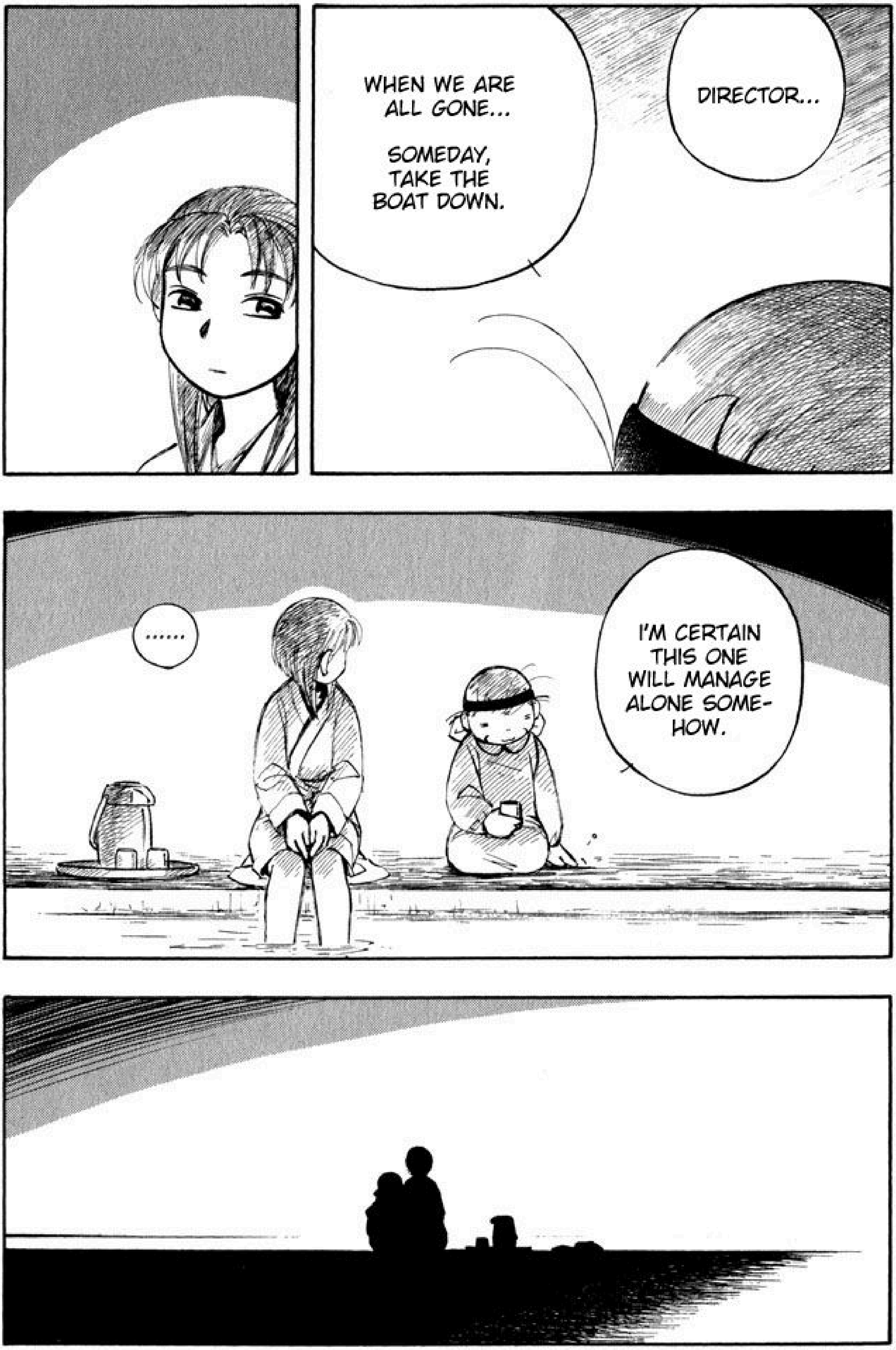


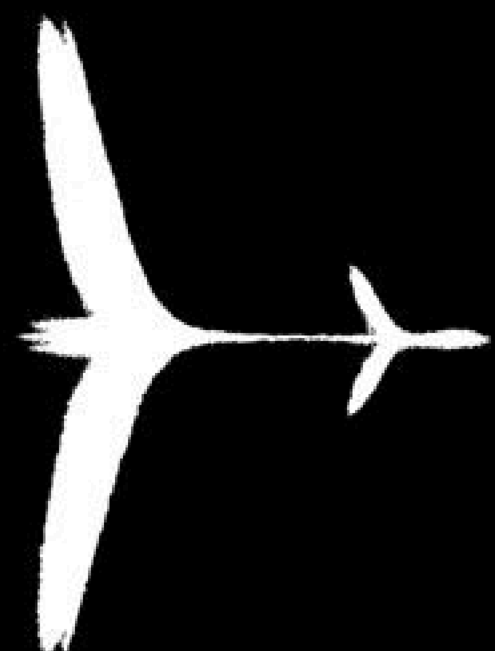

DIRECTOR ALPHA.
AH!
......
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
ER, UM... JUST BATHING...
HERE? WHAT, AGAIN?
YES...NO. I'M VERY SORRY.


WELL, THIS IS THE LAST SECTION.
AND THE TEMPER-ATURE AND SALT LEVELS ARE GOOD.
AND YOU HAVE A GOOD VIEW OF BELOW, RIGHT?
DO YOU COME HERE OFTEN?
YES, ACTUALLY...
YOU ARENT REALLY DOING ANY-THING WRONG.
BUT SOME-ONE MIGHT SEE YOU.
I'LL TRY TO NOT LET THAT HAP-PEN...


DO YOU WANT TO GO DOWN THERE?
......
AHH...
HOW ABOUT WE GO TOGETHER?
AHH...


....
THE LANDING BOAT...
I WONDER IF WE SHOULD JETTISON IT...
....
MAYBE ... WE SHOULD.

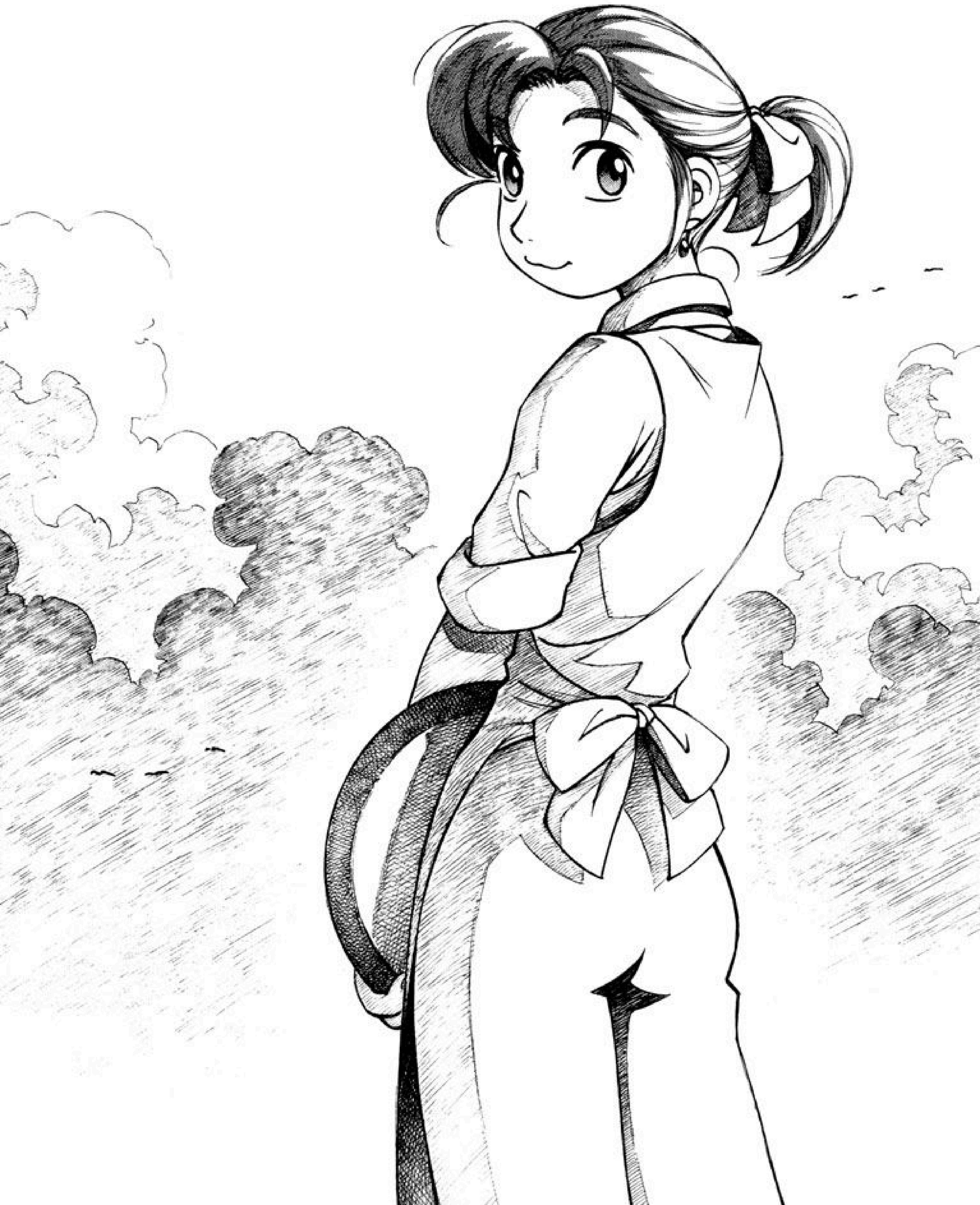

DIRECTOR...
WHEN WE ARE ALL GONE... SOMEDAY, TAKE THE BOAT DOWN.
I'M CERTAIN THIS ONE WILL MANAGE ALONE SOME-HOW.
......

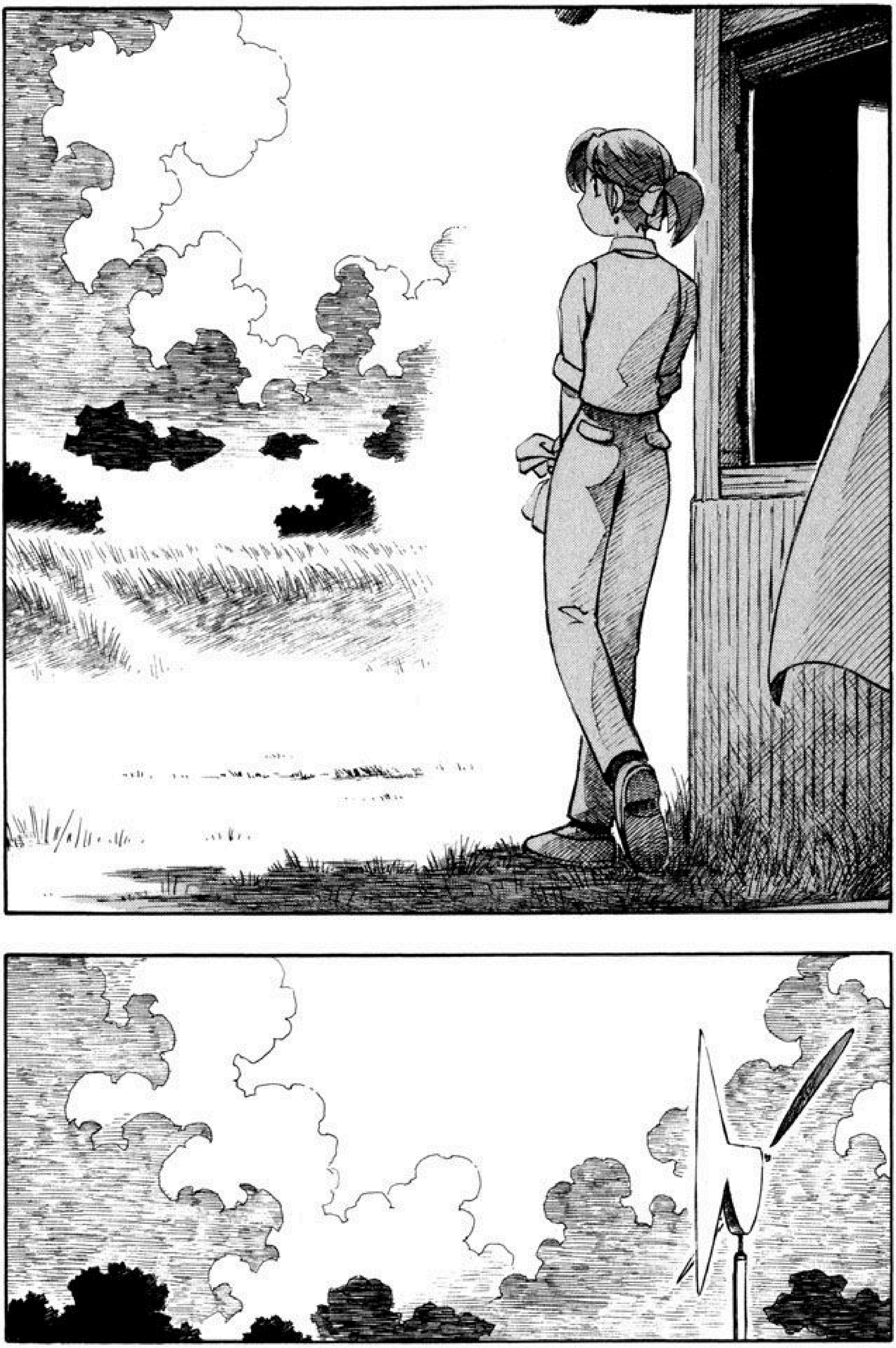



ブー〜…


PUTT
PUTT
PUTT
AH! ARE YOU OPEN?
AH! YES!
HELLO!
COME ON IN!
It smells a bit like paint thinner, but...

Story 95 Green

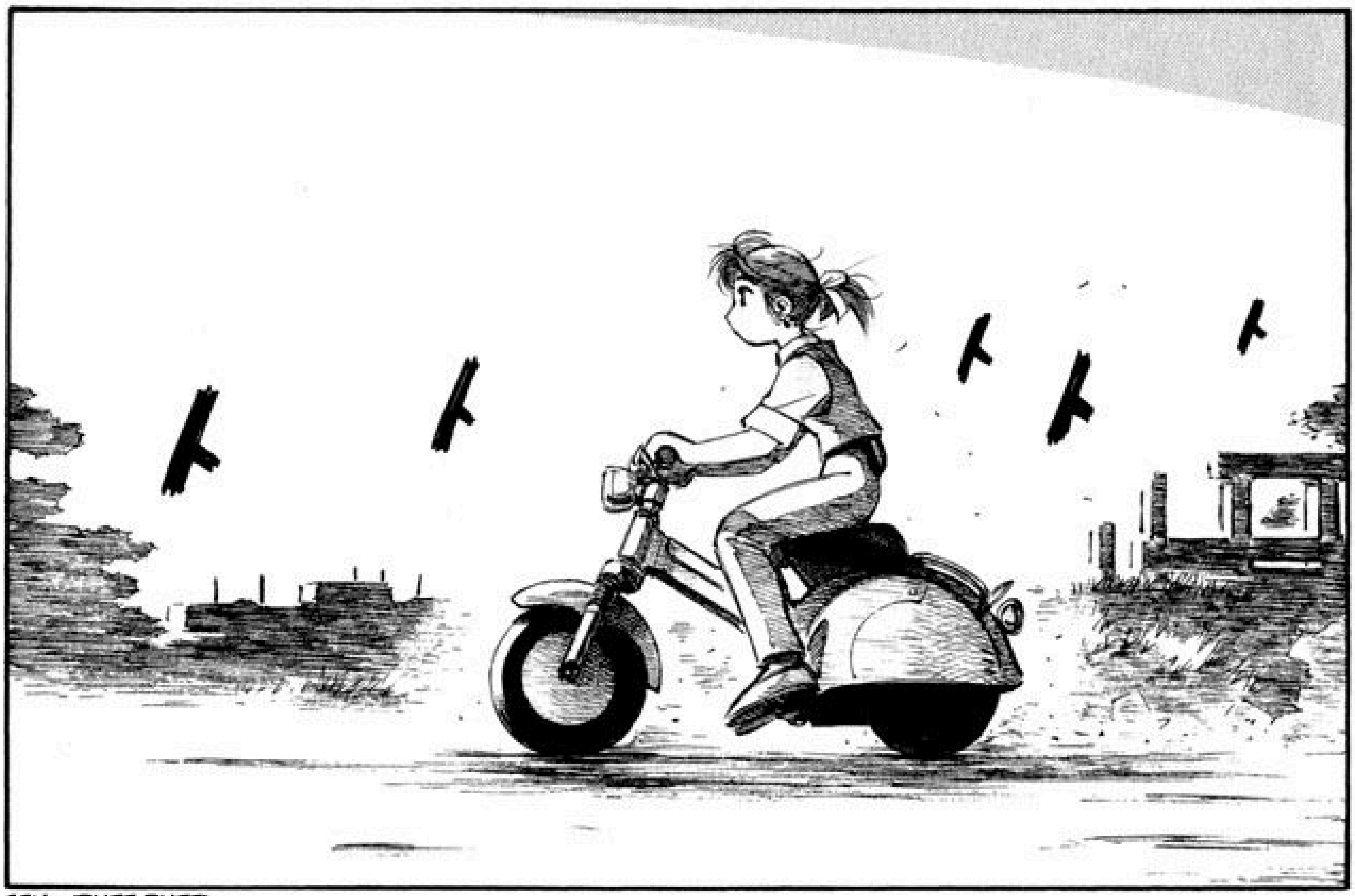




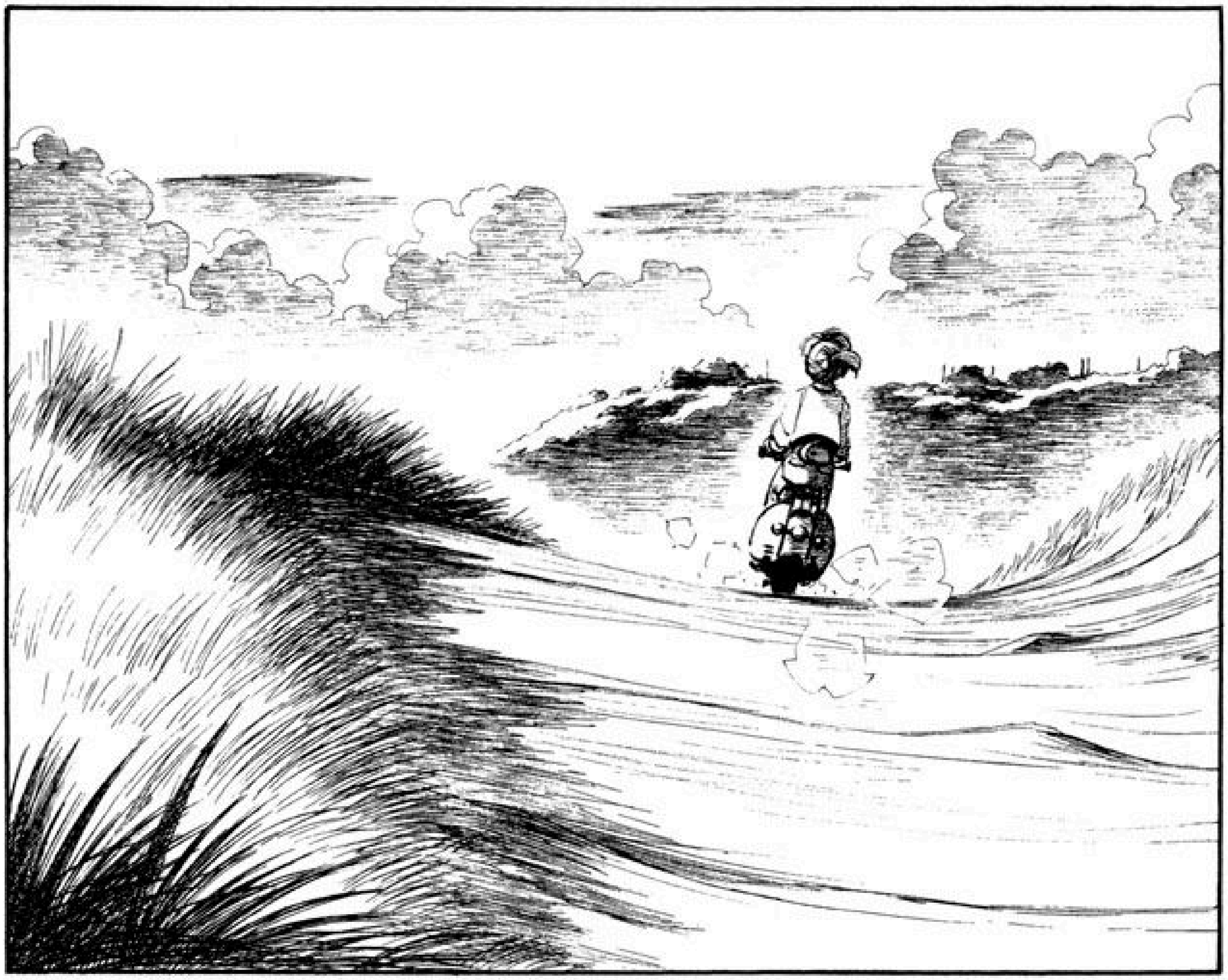





YO!
AH!
GOING HOME ALREADY?
YEAH. THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
WHAT, YA GOIN' SOMEWHERE?
HEHE... JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
..... TAKE CARE.
YO.



SFX: <PUTT PUTT>





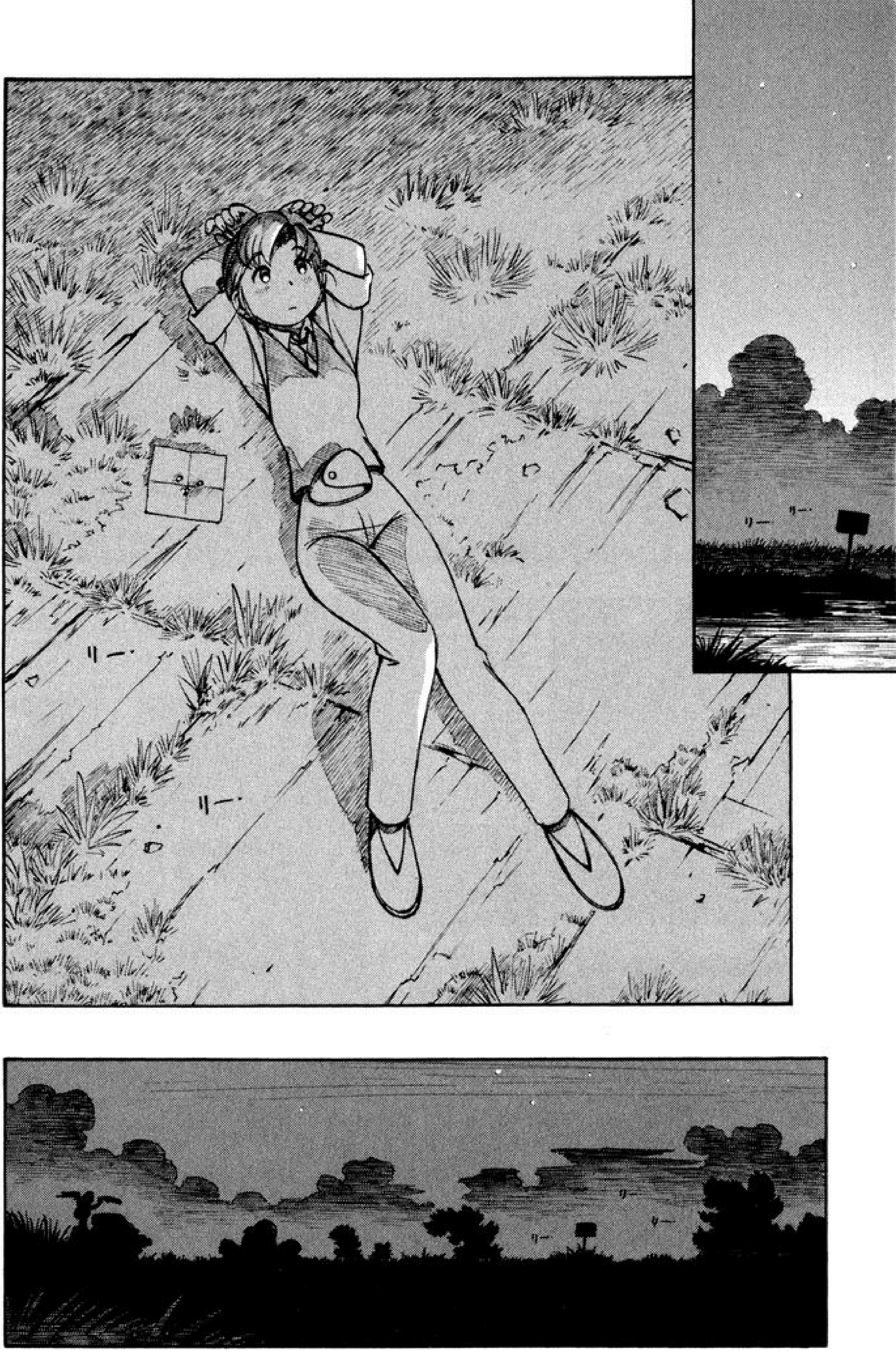




SFX: <BANG!>


SFX: <CRACKLE>
GREEN LIGHTNING. HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE I LAST SAW IT?
SFX: <BANG!>

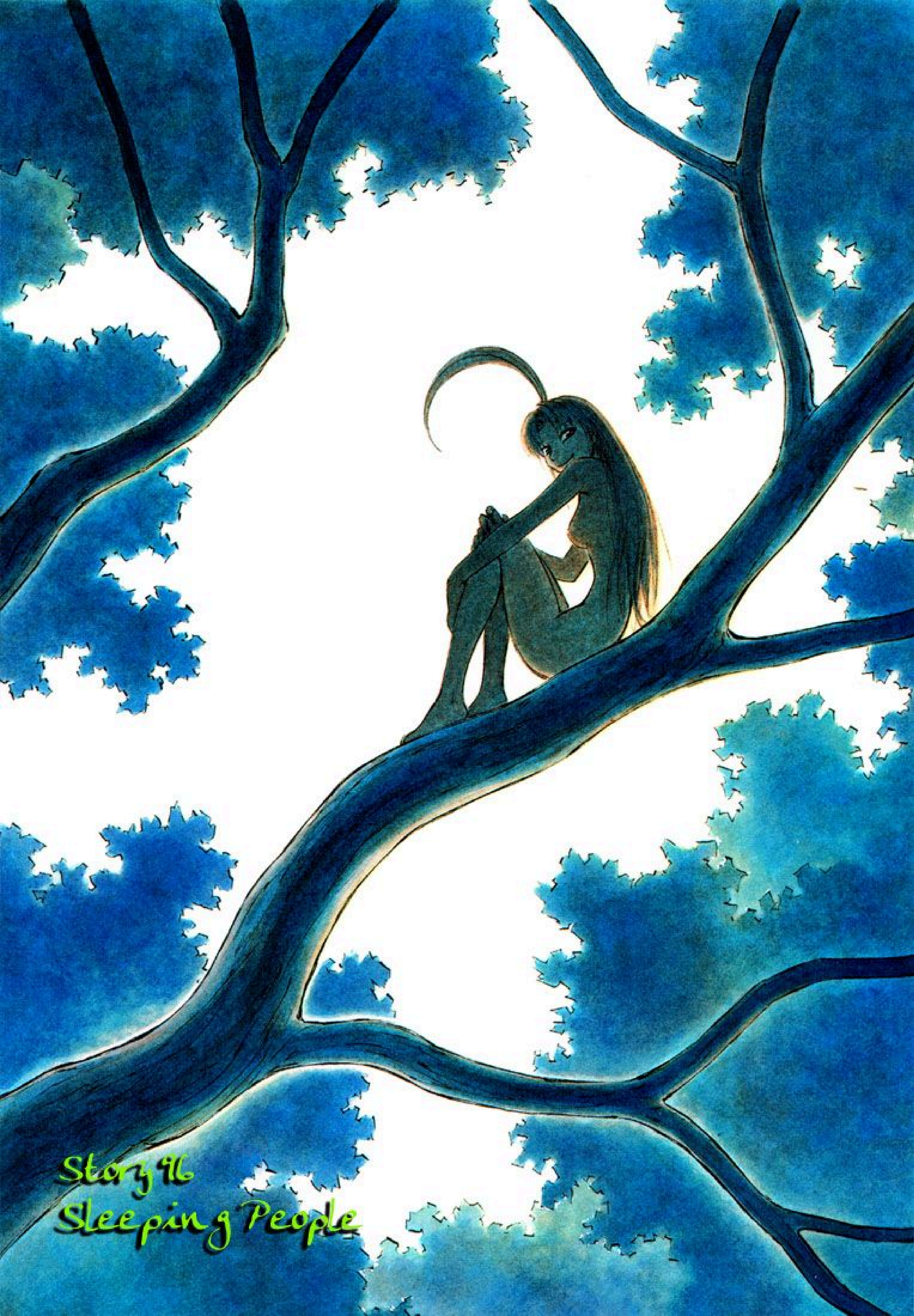

FROM TIME TO TIME, I'M OVER-COME WITH THE DESIRE TO SEE THAT LIGHT.
....
BUT, JUST ONCE IN A WHILE IN ENOUGH.



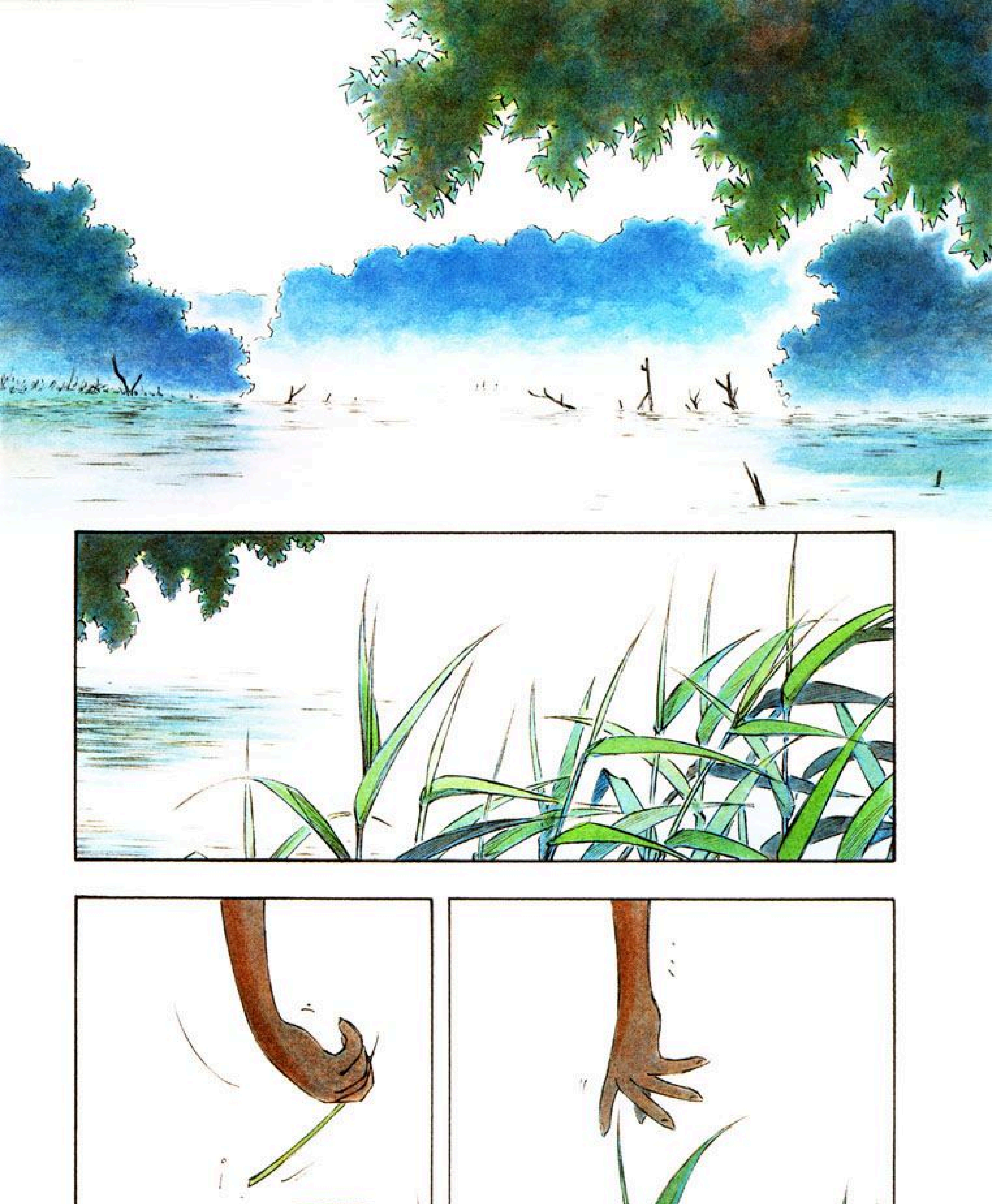
Story 95 - End

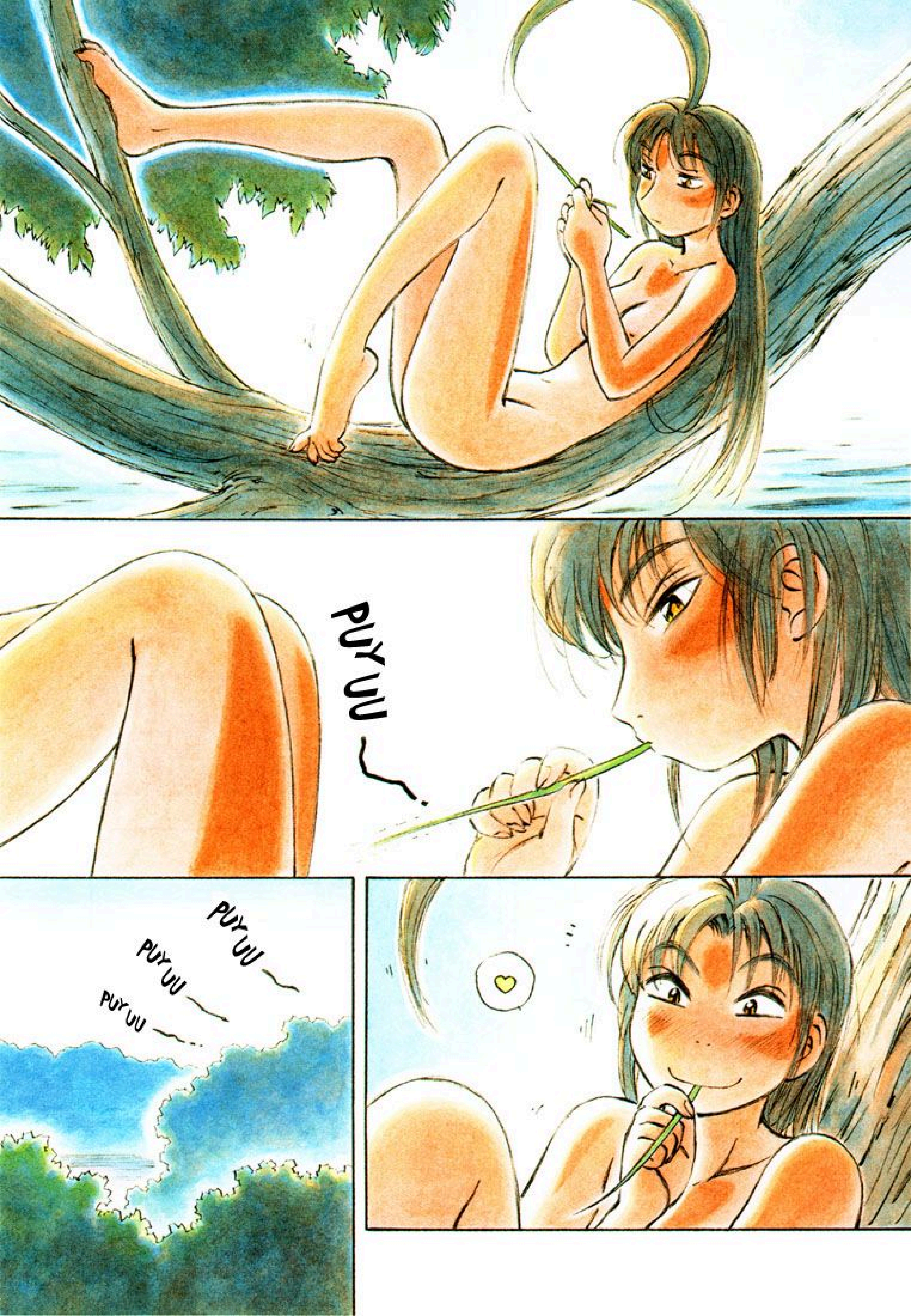


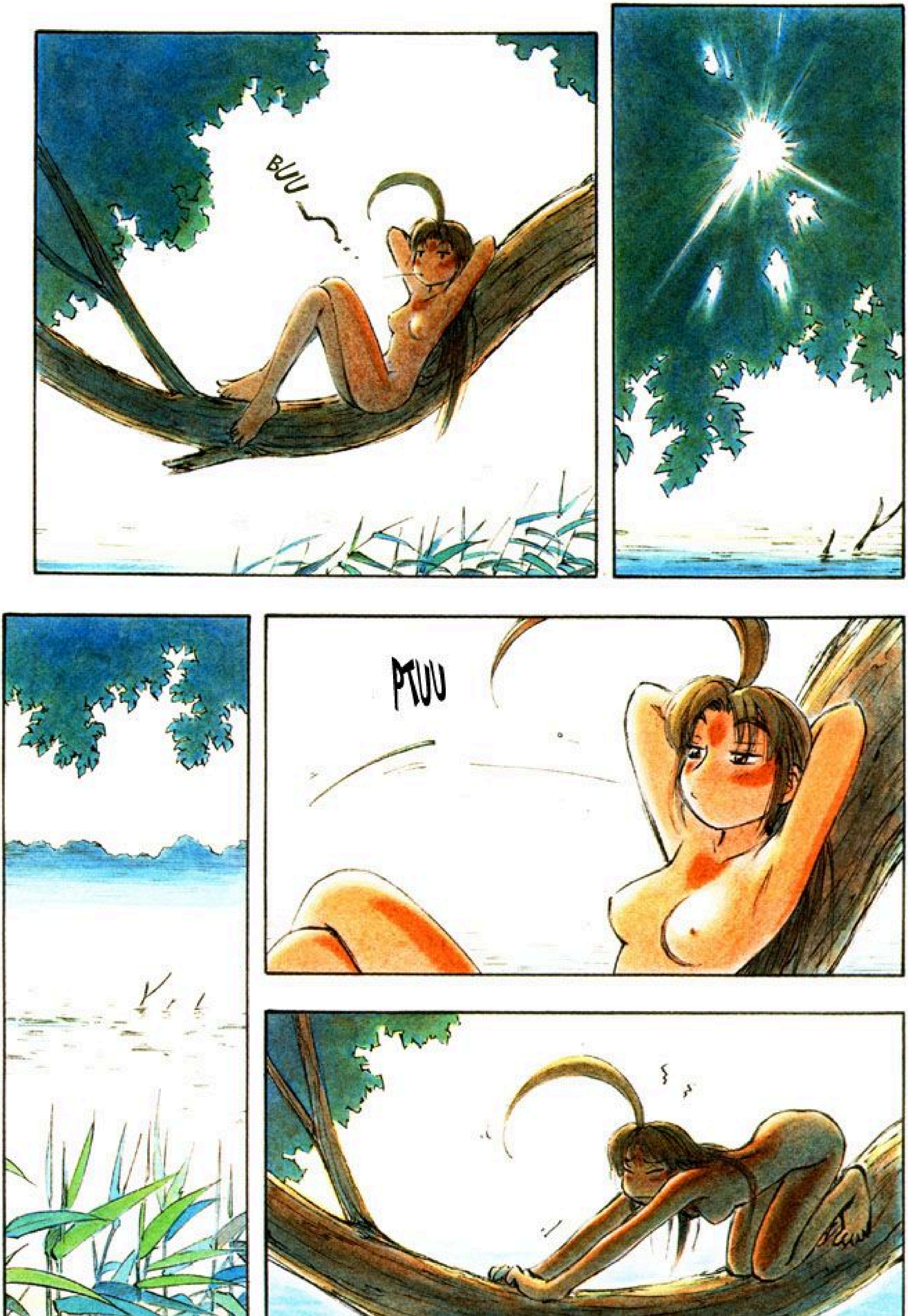


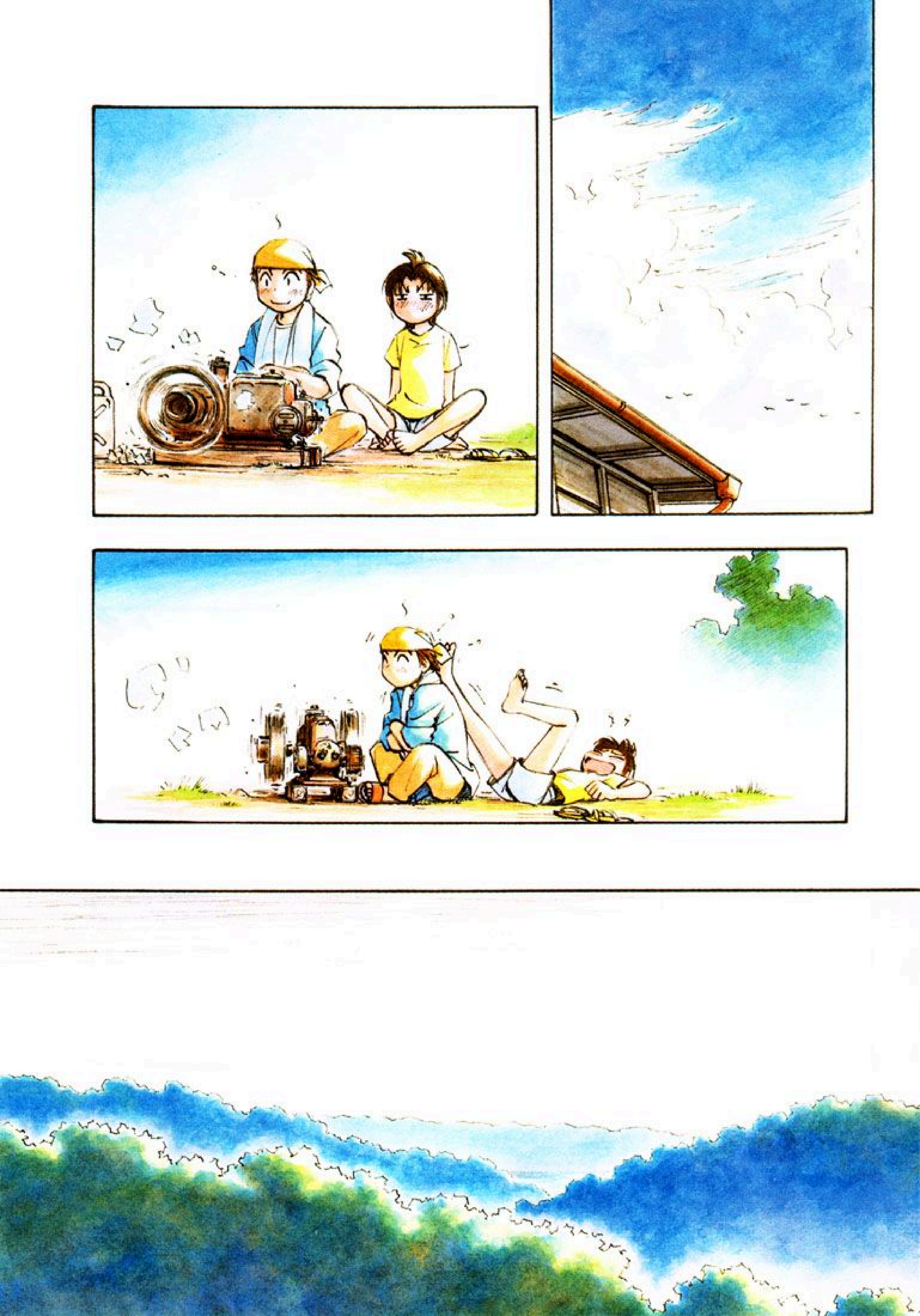

Story 96
Sleeping People


......
AH! IT'S SO BORING!
WHA!?

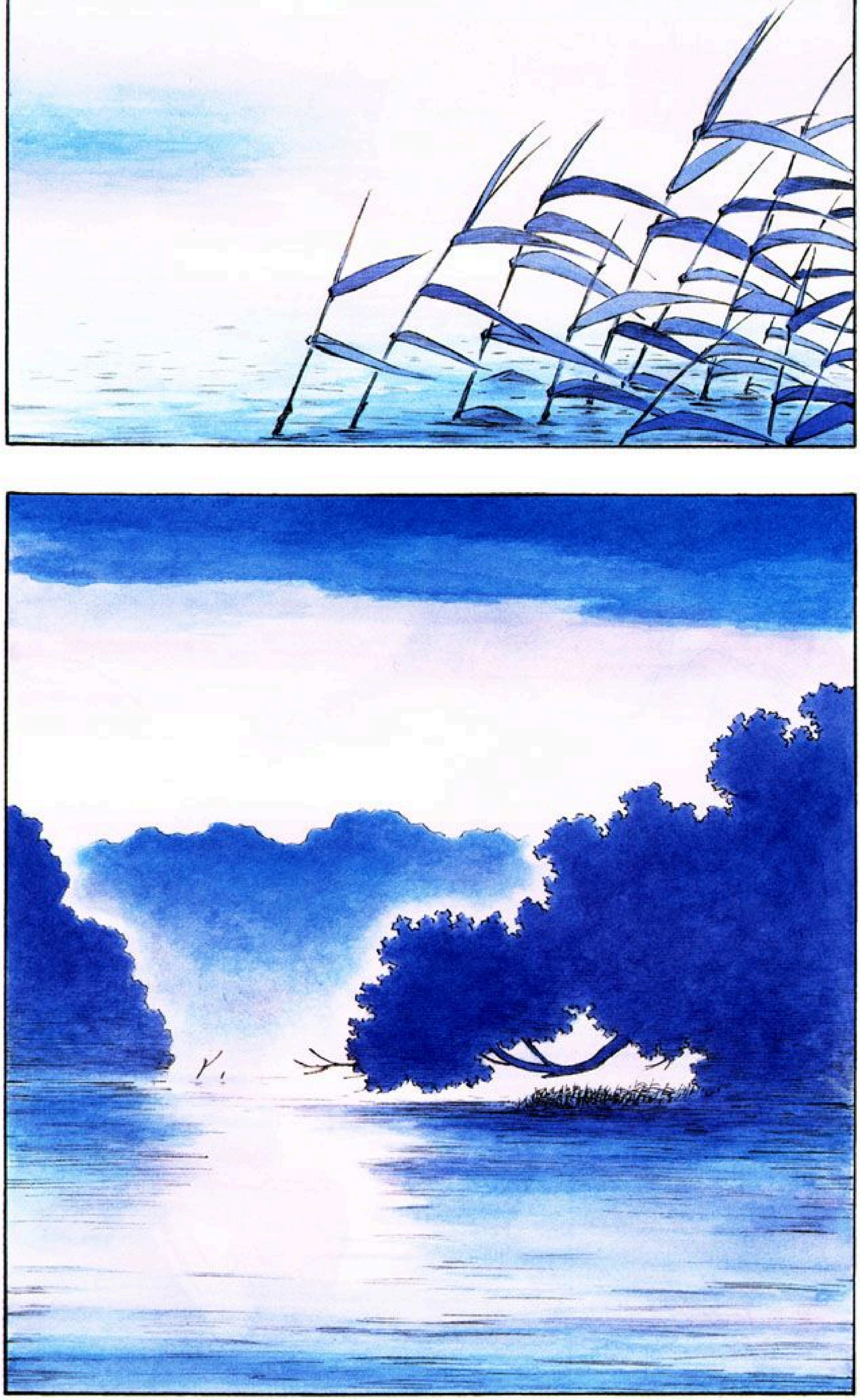



PUYUU~..
PUYUU~
PUYUU~
PUYUU~..

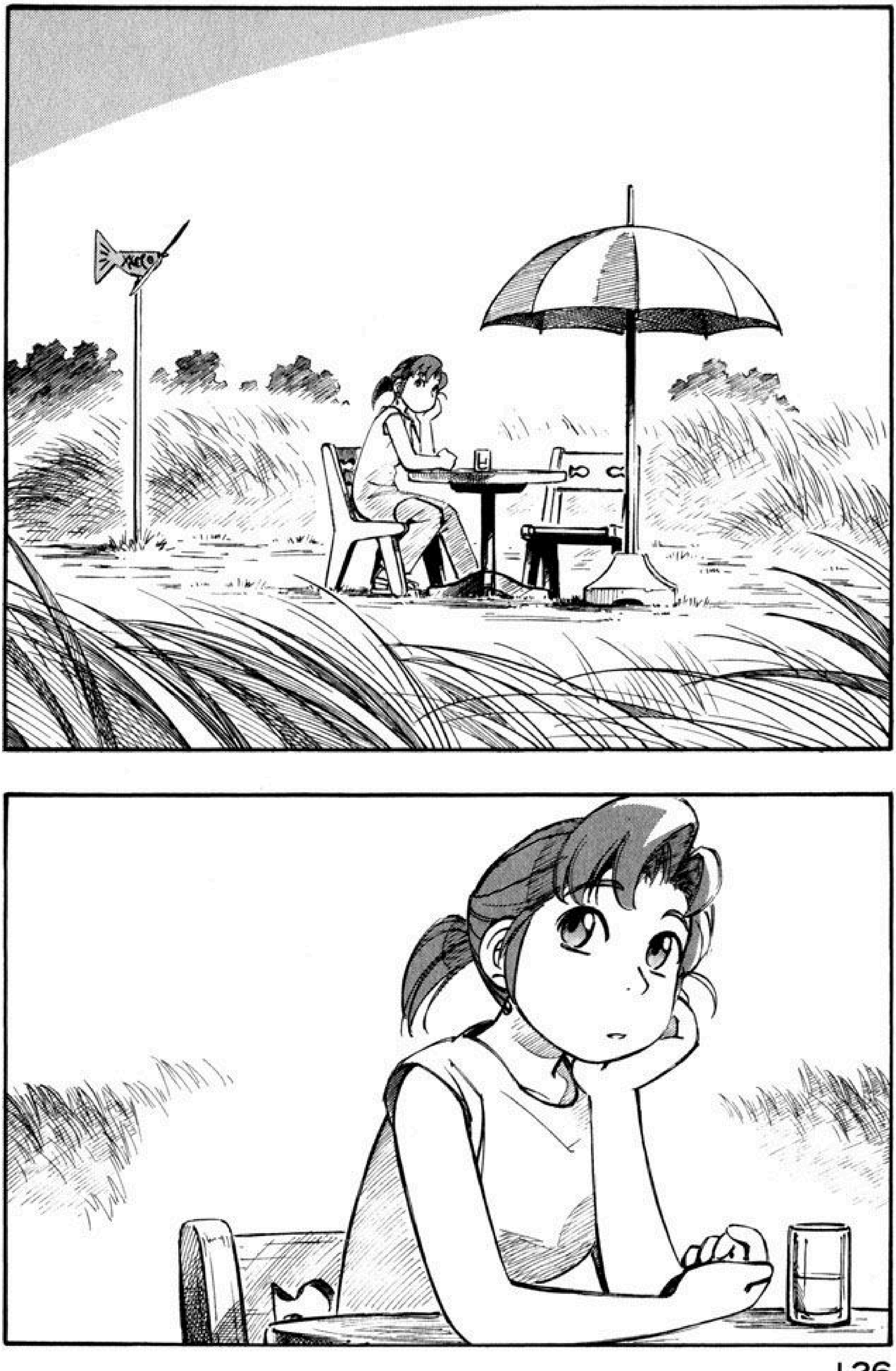

BUU
PTUU








Story 97 Blinding Yellow

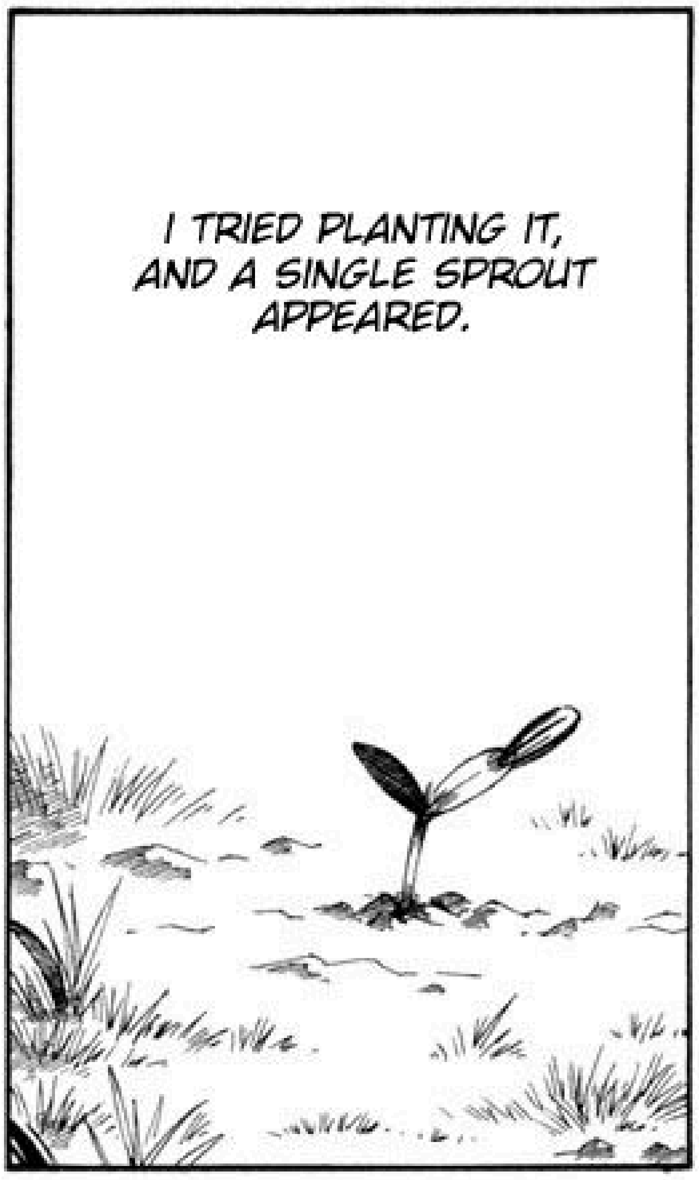


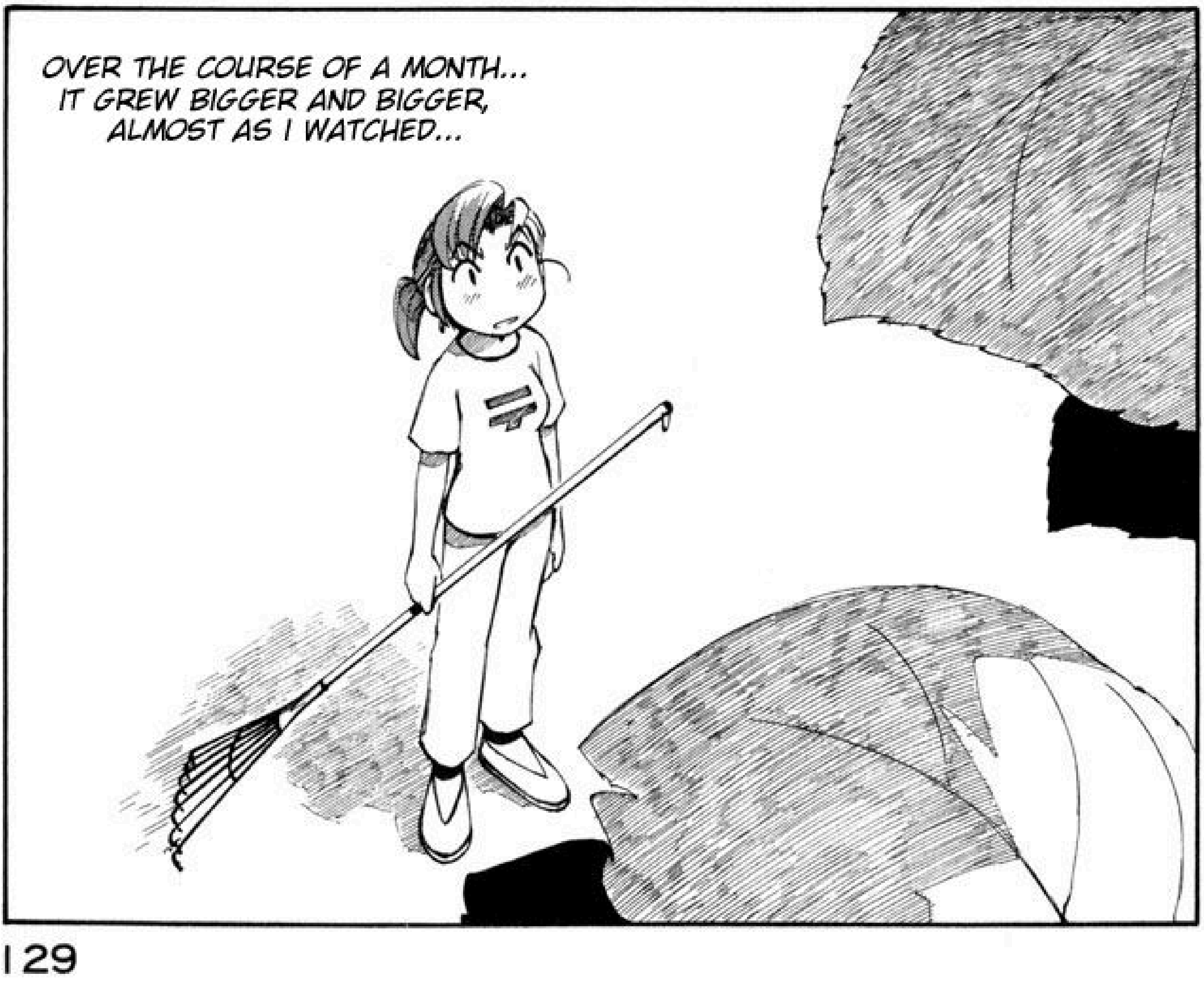

ブ ブ ブ
AH! HELLO!
HEY. WE ENDED UP COMIN' AFER ALL.
HUH... SO THIS IS IT.
YEP. THAT'S IT.






NOT LONG AGO, WHILE I WAS IN TOWN, I WAS GIVEN A "POWER SUNFLOWER" SEED.


I TRIED PLANTING IT, AND A SINGLE SPROUT APPEARED.


OVER THE COURSE OF A MONTH... IT GREW BIGGER AND BIGGER, ALMOST AS I WATCHED...


AS A RESULT, EVERY DAY THERE'S A STEADY STREAM OF PEOPLE FROM THE AREA STOPPING BY.
....
A FLOWER THAT BIG... IT'S JUST A BIT...
DEFINITELY.

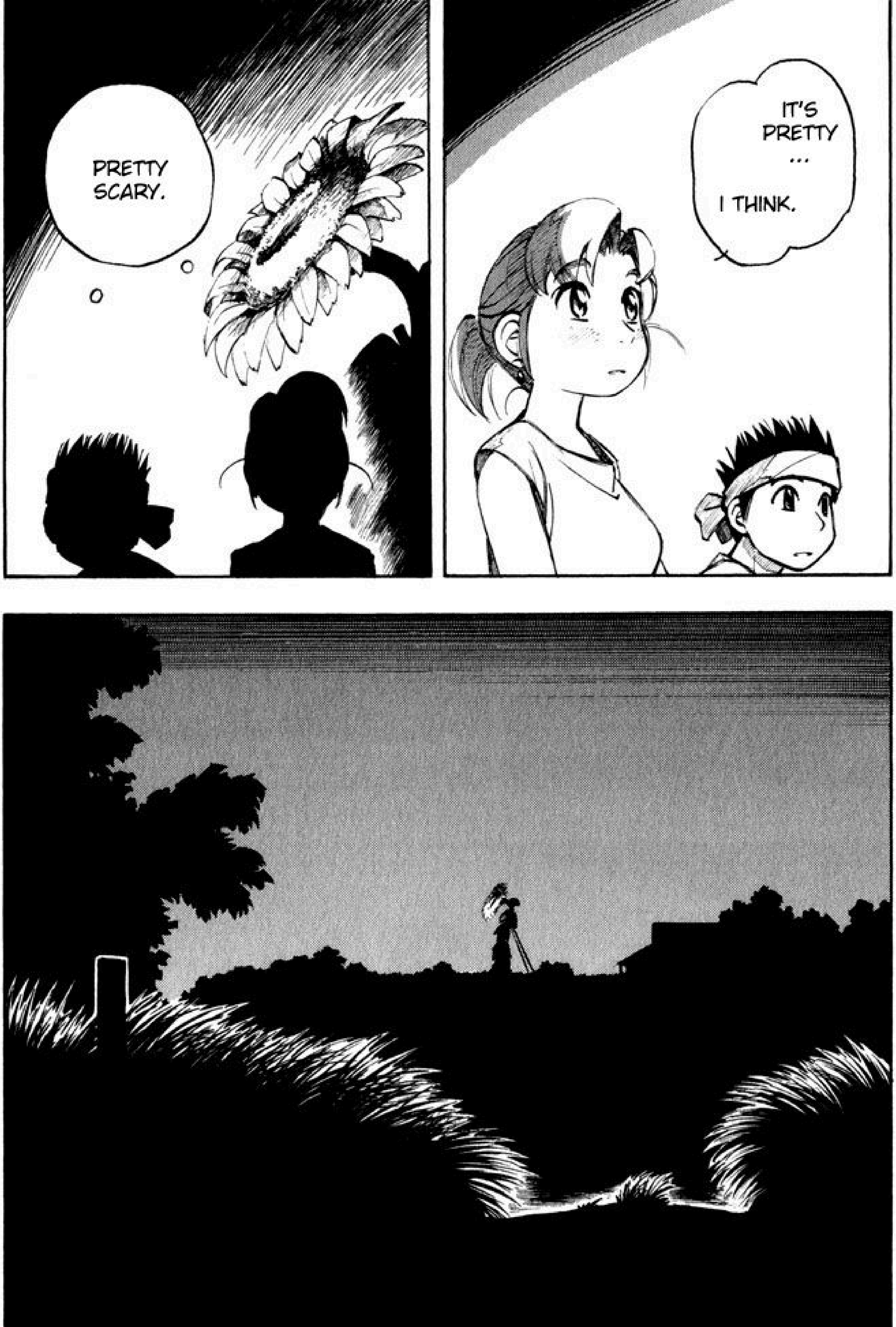

IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE A PARABOLIC MIRROR.
OH MY.
THE PAMPAS GRASS NEAR THE FLOWER CAN'T GET ENOUGH NU-TRIENTS BECAUSE THE SUNFLOWER SUCKS IT ALL AWAY.


ALPHA!
OH! WELCOME!
HUH?
MAKKI-CHAN! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE.
I LIKE SUN-FLOWERS ...


HMM. NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, IT'S CREEPY.
YEAH.
OH, HERE ...
WE JUST GOT HERE, AFTER ALL.






IT'S PRETTY ...
I THINK.
PRETTY SCARY.


IT WILTED SOON AFTER THAT.
I GOT A HUGE PILE OF SEEDS FROM IT.
Ordinary seeds...
I WONDER IF I SHOULD PLANT ANOTHER ONE NEXT YEAR.
I'M REALLY NOT SURE...



Story 98
Flying Creatures


THWACK




YO!
......
YO!



......YER PRETTY GOOD WITH THAT BOOMERANG.
HE, HE. I'VE GOT NOTHING ELSE TO DO.
YEAH?
Uh-huh!
......HOW'S TAKAHIRO?
HE'S ON A COMPANY TRIP...
TO THE HOT SPRINGS SOMEWHERE.
I SEE.


HEY, MAKKI...
WHAT ARE YA PLANNING TO DO WHEN YOU GET OLDER?
WHAT!?
......
HMM...
I DON'T KNOW YET...


HEY, MAKKI...
HUH?
SOMEDAY, IF YA DON'T MIND...
HOW ABOUT YOU COME WITH ME?
WELL... THAT'D BE A FEW YEARS FROM NOW.


KYAAA!
W-WHAT ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT, OLD MAN?
DON'T BE AN IDIOT.
...ANYWAY.
I'LL LEAVE IT UP TO YOU.
TA TELL THE TRUTH, EVEN IF YA LEARN HOW TO FLY KAMAS, YA DON'T ALWAYS FIND ENOUGH TO EAT.
BUT IT'S ALWAYS INTERESTIN', WANDERIN' AROUND WITH A FISH.


....
I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.
OKAY.
ALL RIGHT.
I GUESS THAT MAKES YA A CAN-DIDATE.
CANDIDATE?
TRY HOLDIN' THIS.
HOLDING ...WHAT?




I FOUND IT IN MY BAG NOT LONG AGO.
I THINK IT'S THAT ONE'S KID, ALTHOUGH I CAN'T TELL FOR SURE.

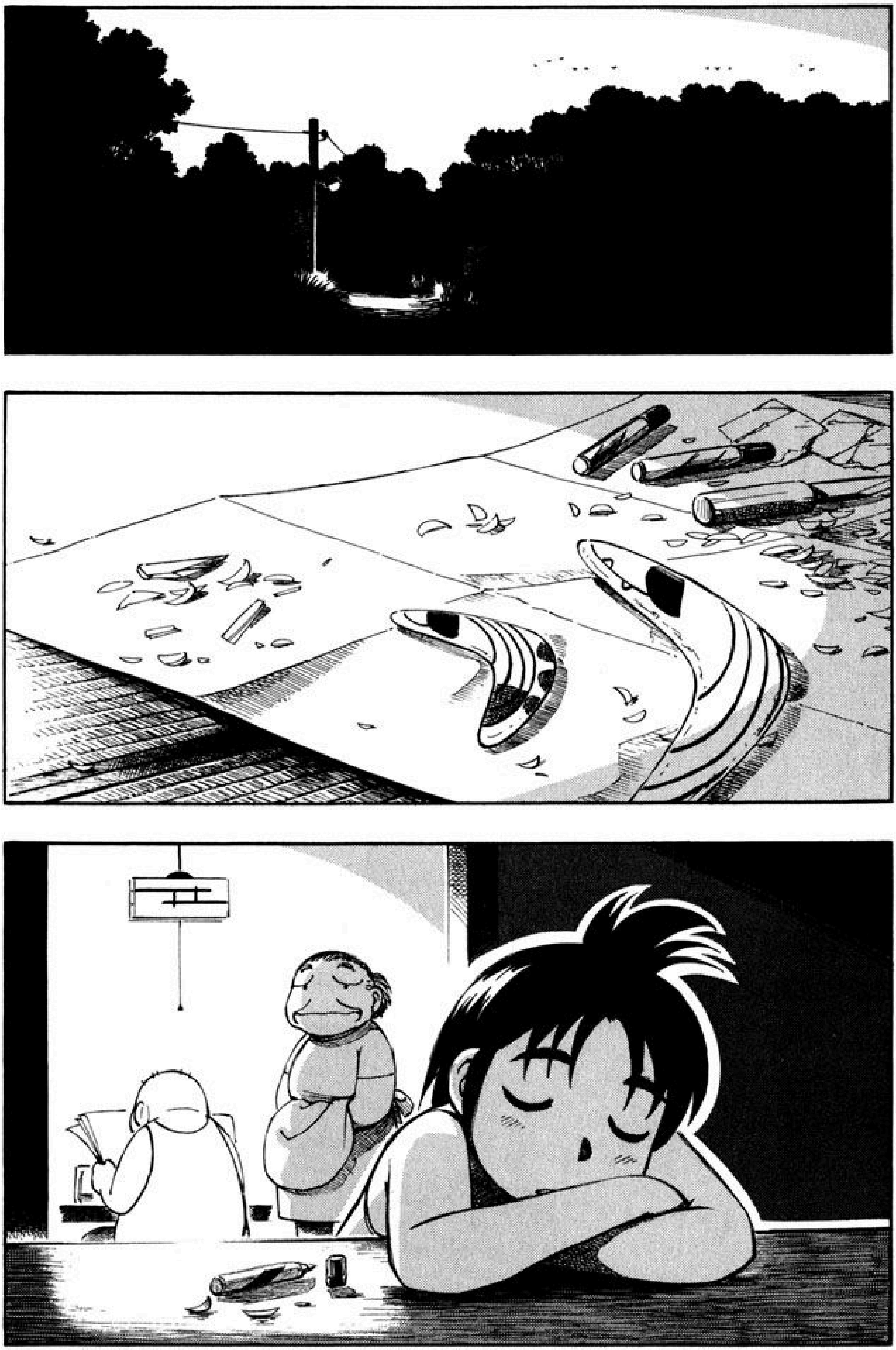

I'M TRYIN' TA GET IT USED TO PEOPLE.
HERE, MAKKI. TRY HOLDIN' IT.




WOW...


AYASE... THANK YOU.
IT'S NOTHIN'.
WHAT I WAS TALKIN' ABOUT EARLIER ...
IT DOESN'T SOUND TOO BAD, DOES IT?
I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.



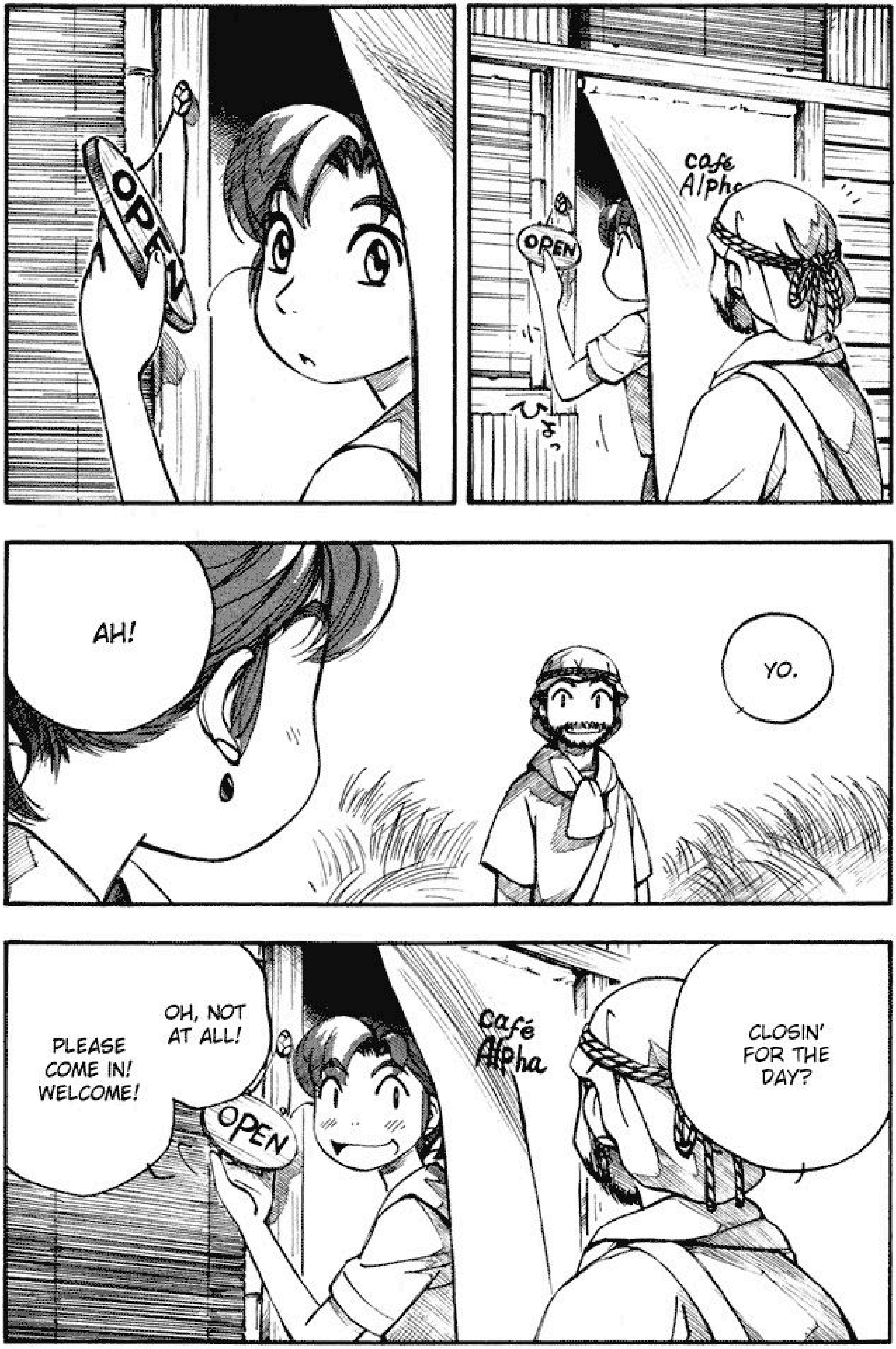


Story 98 - End


Story 99 - On the Earth




café
Alpha
OPEN


OPEN
café Alpha
OPEN
AH!
YO.
CLOSIN' FOR THE DAY?
OH, NOT AT ALL!
PLEASE COME IN! WELCOME!
OPEN
café Alpha


HUH!?
SAY...
UM... AH...
......
AH! THE GUY WITH THE FISH!
OH.
YA REMEM-BERED ME.
I FIN-ALLY STOPPED BY.
HEH, HEH. IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
Café Alpha
DID I TELL YA MY NAME'S AYASE?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! I COULDN'T REMEMBER.
SORRY.


...SO, DO YA ALWAYS SIT WITH YER CUST- OMERS?
EH?
AH, NO... THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH IT, IS THERE?
I GUESS IT IS A BIT STRANGE. I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT BEFORE, BUT...


IT'S BEEN MANY YEARS SINCE WE SAW EACH OTHER.
YEAH.
IT WAS AT THE GREAT NORTH RUIN.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

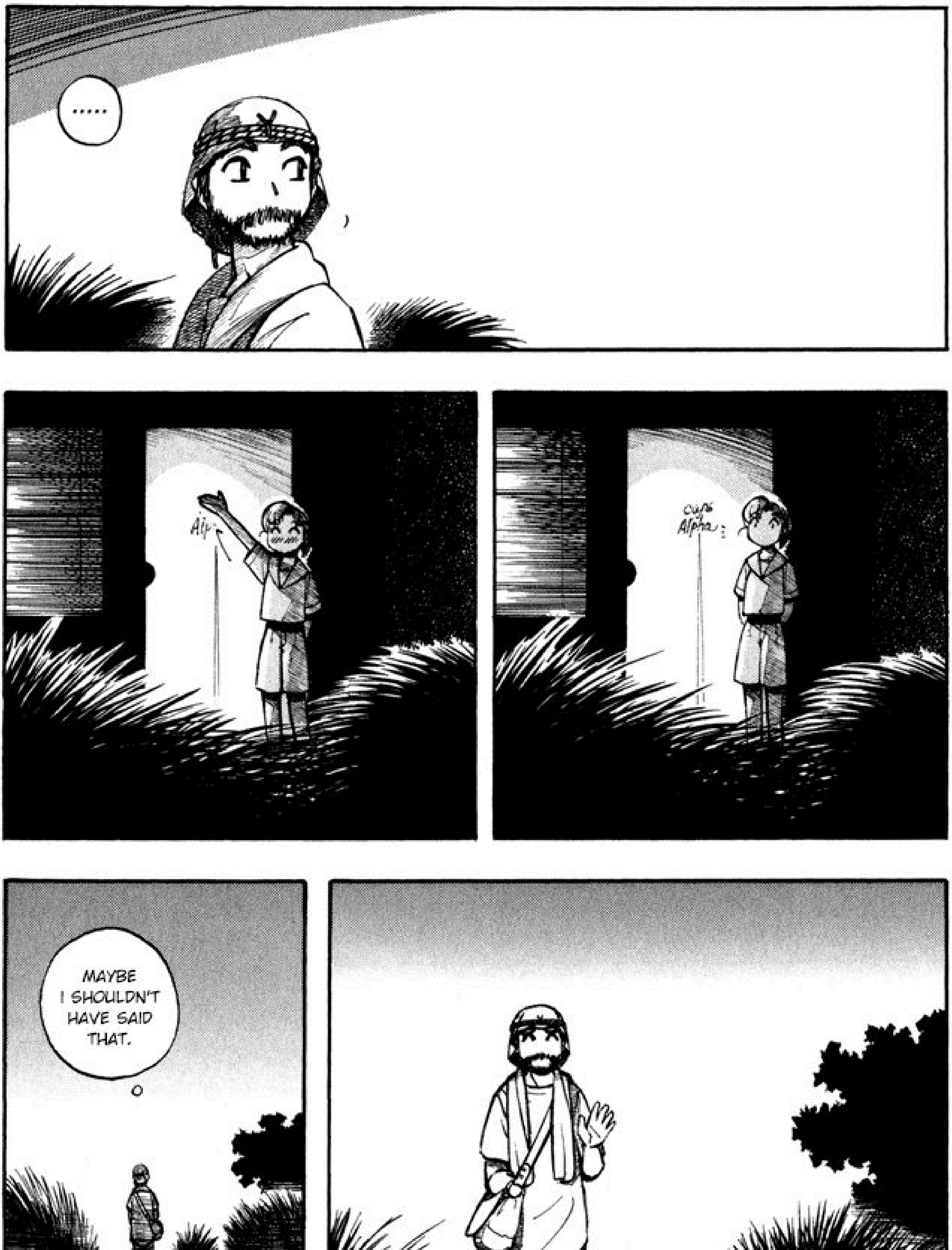

WHEN I WAS A KID, THERE WERE STILL ABOUT THREE HOUSES HERE.
I DIDN'T THINK THERE WERE ANY LEFT.
HMM... I WONDER IF MY OWNER WAS HERE THEN...
OWNER? ... HMM. WAS THERE SOMEONE HERE?

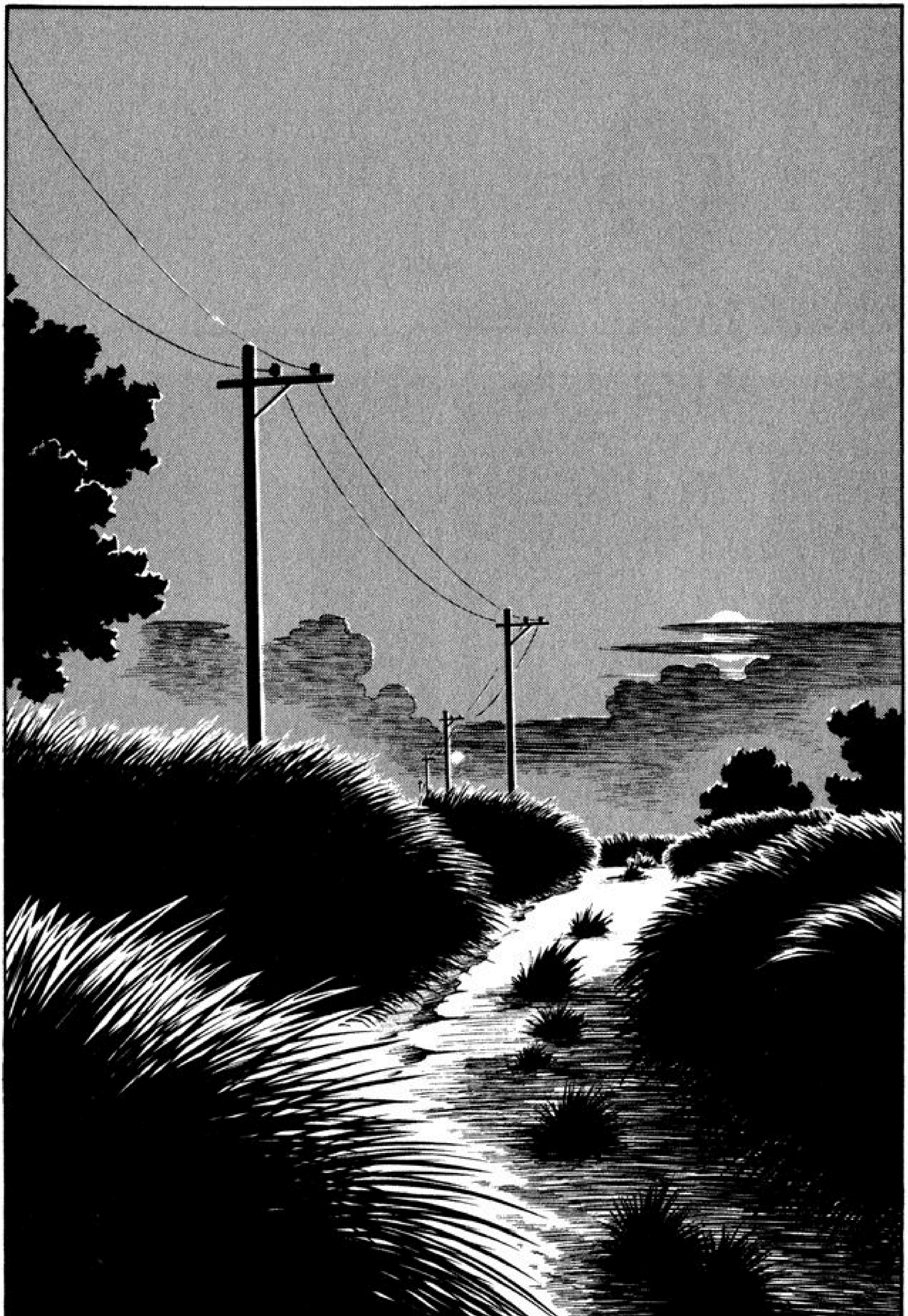

BACK THEN, THERE WERE SOME WEIRD RUMORS ABOUT THE PLACE.
UM... PLEASE DON'T SCARE ME.
NO... IT JUST SURPRISED ME WHEN I CAME THIS TIME.
IT LOOKS REALLY NICE... THE FEELING KINDA WENT...
POOF!
REALLY? THAT'S GOOD, BUT...


NOW THEN, IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO GO.
UM!
Y-YOU COULD SPEN THE NIGHT HERE! HOW ABOUT IT?
OH... THAT STORY FROM BEFORE.


I TOLD YA IT'S OKAY. THE PLACE IS NOTHIN' LIKE IT USED TO BE.
BUT...
I'M STAYIN' ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF DEN-CHAN'S STORE TONIGHT.
THE LADY'S PROBABLY ALREADY MAKIN' DINNER.
OH.
I'LL STOP BY AGAIN NEXT TIME I'M IN THE AREA.
OKAY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
café Alpha


...... YOUR FISH DIDN'T COME OUT AT ALL.
AH... MUST BE SLEEPIN'.
PLEASE COME AGAIN!


......
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT.




RUSTLE
GULP
I'M NOT GETTING ANYTHING DONE TONIGHT.





Yokohama Kaidashi Kikou Volume 10 - End





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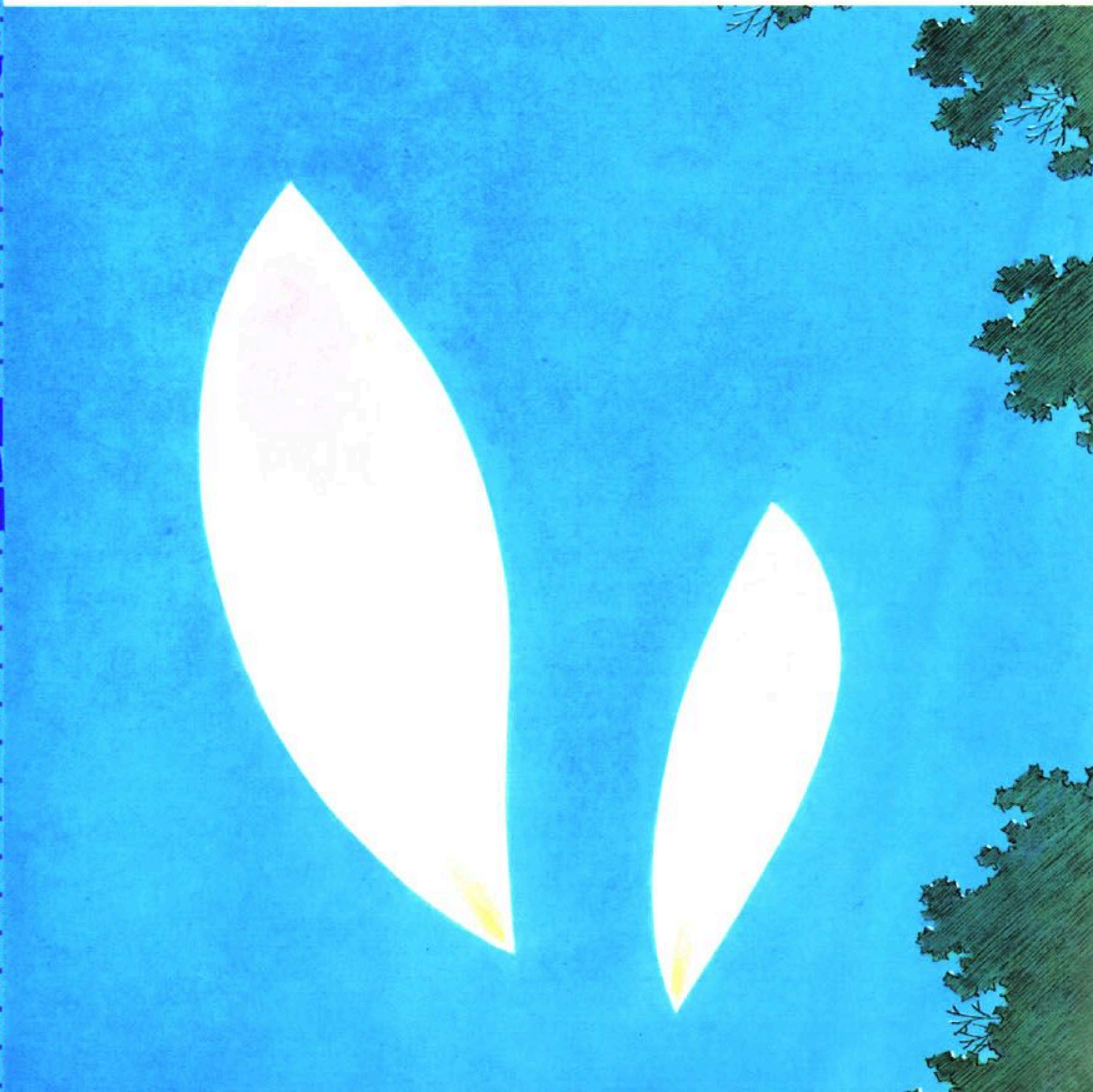
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Maruko's

This Might Be Bad...

